

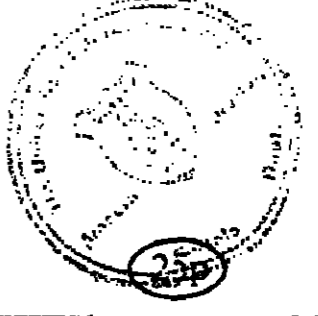
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No 62,537

Rolls-Royce wins £600m BA contract

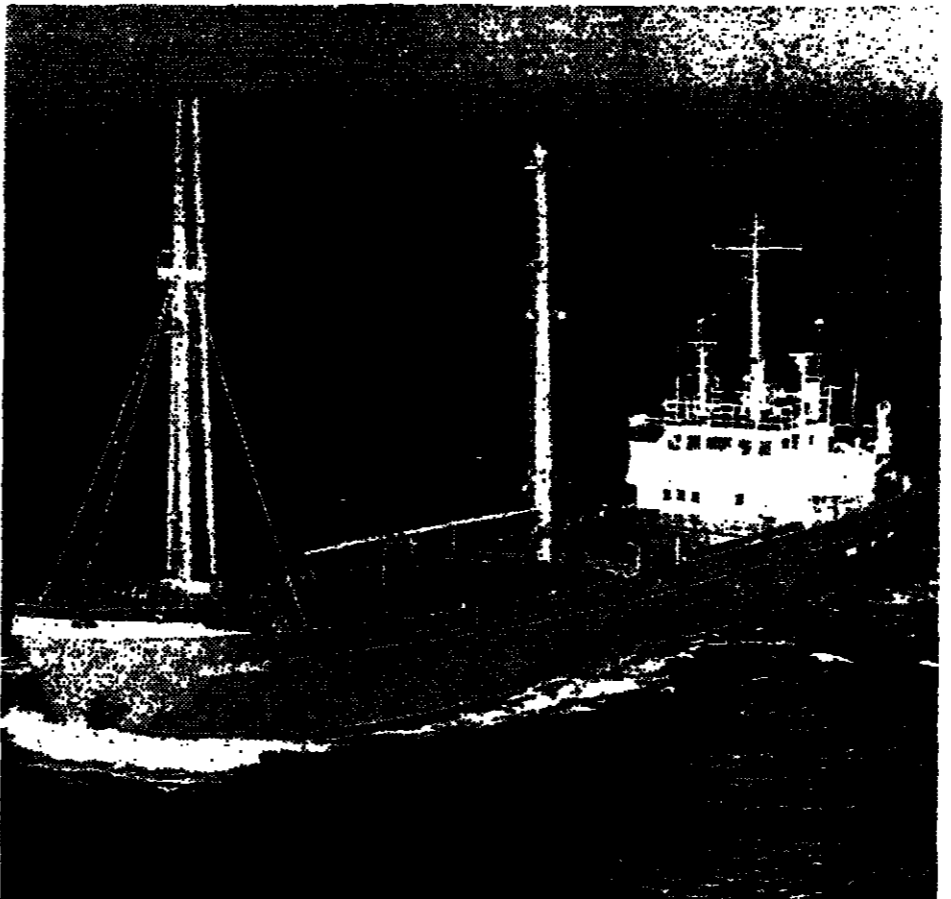
By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Rolls-Royce, the state-owned aero engine maker, emerged as the victor over the Americans yesterday in the battle to provide engines for the next fleet of British Airways Boeing 747 jumbo jets...

The engine order was placed after eight months of negotiations, in what were described yesterday as "some of the most tough and aggressive competitive conditions" between Rolls and its American rivals...

BA is to acquire the aircraft under complex operating leases as part of a financial package put together by Rolls. This involves a syndicate of international banks providing a revolving credit facility worth £1.4 billion to finance the aircraft purchase...

Tamils paid £1,600 each for transatlantic trip World hunt for cargo ship refugee-runner



The cargo ship Aurigan, now being hunted after the issue of an international arrest warrant.

World hunt for cargo ship refugee-runner

World shipping authorities yesterday launched a global sea search using satellite and computer-linked tracking systems to pinpoint the whereabouts of the German cargo ship Aurigan, sought after the dumping of more than 150 Sri Lankan refugees off Newfoundland...

Pit stike police escape discipline

Police officers had assaulted miners, over-reacted and been abusive in clashes with pickets at the height of the year-long pit strike, a Police Complaints Authority inquiry report said yesterday.

Fish dinner puts Queen Mother in hospital for tests

The Queen Mother was flown by helicopter to the Royal Aberdeen Infirmary yesterday after complaining of throat discomfort shortly after eating fish. It is almost four years since her throat was operated on at King Edward VII Hospital for Officers after a fishbone lodged in her throat during a meal at Windsor.

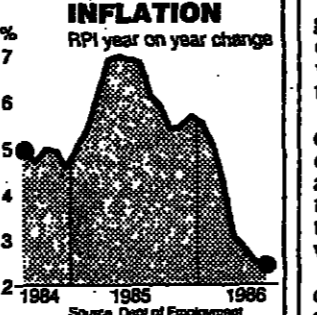
Next week

Harvest of sorrow Starting Monday: How Stalin's terror killed 14 million Russian peasants. Degrees of ability Starting Tuesday: Should school leavers go to university - or take the money and get a job?

Inflation at lowest for nearly 20 years

By Richard Thomson

The rate of inflation hit its lowest point for nearly 20 years last month, with the prices of many goods falling for the second month in succession. The news follows Thursday's disappointing figures on unemployment and earnings, and was quickly seized on by the Government as evidence of the success of its policies.



Portfolio Gold

There is £12,000 to be won today in The Times Portfolio Gold competition, the weekly prize of £8,000 plus the daily £4,000. Yesterday's prize of £8,000, double the usual amount because there was no winner on Thursday, was won outright by Mr R.H. Davis, of Cyncoed, Cardiff.

Soccer watch

Fewer police will be used to combat hooligans at London football grounds this season. Page 3

Torture fury

The Reagan Administration is furious over the torture and interrogation of a US undercover drugs agent by Mexican police. Page 5

Time-change

The law on time-sharing is in urgent need of reform, says Family Money. Pages 22-25

Large Soviet satellite falls towards Earth

Cape Canaveral (UPI) - A mysterious and apparently massive Soviet satellite in a decaying orbit was expected to plunge back to Earth today, promising to make a "spectacular re-entry" as it breaks up in the atmosphere.

Backstage drama ends Glyndebourne season

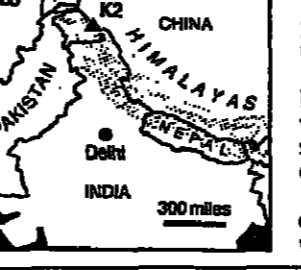
A troubled season at the Glyndebourne Opera drew to a close last night with the resolution of a dispute involving about 20 technicians protesting about the terms of their contracts. The discreet row in the prestigious Sussex-based company involved members of the Broadcasting and Entertainment Trades Alliance (Beta), which reached agreement with the management a few hours before the curtain rose on the final performance of Mozart's Don Giovanni.

Malta greets the Navy with cheers and tears

From Austin Sammut, Valletta. Malta gave the Royal Navy an emotional welcome yesterday as HMS Brazen entered Grand Harbour, the first visit by a British warship in seven years. The scene was a replica of one 44 years ago, when a depleted Allied convoy saved the island from starvation and defeat in 1942. The bastions around Grand Harbour were lined with people struggling for a vantage point since early in the morning.

Fears growing for British climber

Fears are growing that a leading British climber, Mr Alan Rouse, was killed with five other mountaineers on K2, one of the world's most treacherous peaks. The men were last sighted climbing the Himalayan mountain at 24,000 ft on August 4. Mr Chris Bonington, Britain's best-known climber, said yesterday: "I heard last night that they were still missing. Hopes that they are still alive must be pretty thin by now."



Lesbian attacker is jailed

Jayne Scott, the gym mistress in the lesbian love triangle case, was sent to prison for seven years yesterday after a jury found her guilty of a frenzied attack on her homosexual lover. The Slough and Eton Church of England secondary school teacher, aged 30, was found guilty of clubbing Miss Susan Craker, her deputy headmistress, with a claw hammer. Miss Craker, 35, who suffered brain damage during the attack last August, attended court in a wheelchair. Miss Scott denied attacking Miss Craker after finding out that she was having sexual relations with her former lover, Mrs Debbie Fox. Details, page 3

Gooch out of tour to Australia

Graham Gooch announced yesterday that he would not be available to go on the England cricket tour of Australia this winter because he wants to be with his family. The 33-year-old opening batsman said: "My wife, Brenda and I have just had baby twins to go with our young daughter Hannah, and my family commitments mean I can't go away for four and a half months." Gooch, who has played in 58 Tests and is one of the world's top cricketers, said he wanted to continue playing for England at home, including the third Test against New Zealand at the Oval next week, and did not rule out the possibility of touring. John Woodcock, page 32

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Alan Hamilton explores Victoria's great love affair with Scotland and its consequences

The heart that made the Highlands

While staying at Balmoral in 1870, Queen Victoria was stirred to a fury when she found that some of her servants were wearing trousers.



Victoria in tartan, 1854, and two of the retainers painted by Macleay

The Queen's love affair with Highlanders and all things Highland was a romantic passion of great intensity and long standing.

As soon as they acquired a house in Scotland in 1848, Victoria and Albert set about collecting views of their 'truly princely and romantic little kingdom'.

Macleay clearly understood his commission well, for he produced a series of highly romanticized portraits of fashion-plate smartness that accorded perfectly with his patron's roseate view of her northern kingdom.

Victoria thought there was no race like the Highlanders, "these dear, good, superior people whom I miss dreadfully elsewhere."

The Scots, who to this day are adept at being craven when self-interest is at stake, descended in force to see the Hanoverian disembark at Leith and besport himself around his northern capital clad in the kilts and pink silk tights.

His impending visit had stirred the remaining rump of the feudal clan system and the new southern landlords - who had moved in sheep where once there were people - to a frenzy of Scottishness.

Never was the short kilt, or filibeg, the everyday dress of the mountain men who scraped an existence in the Highlands and wrapped themselves against the hostile air in a long, untailored plaid.

ran a mid-18th century factory at Inverness, and who found that his workers' long plaids got in the way of their work.

Indeed the kilts, along with all things Scottish, was a proscribed garment after the '45, when the English raped and butchered the old clan system.

Such historical considerations troubled Victoria rarely a whit. Indeed, when she attended her first church service at Craighie Church, near the gates of Balmoral, she thought it a great pity that the villagers were not all in kilts.

Victoria's love of things Highland was no doubt reinforced by her relationship with John Brown, who is depicted in the watercolours posing outside Osborne on the Isle of Wight.

Albert loved Scotland because it reminded him of Thuringia, Victoria loved it because Albert did but also because, Hanoverian though she was, she was genuinely proud of her Stuart ancestors.

The Highlanders of Scotland, to be published on Wednesday by Hoggarston Press, 38 Kensington Place, London (E30).

Gavin Stamp

This gift horse rightly refused

In 1888 that manic builder and extraordinary patron of the arts, the Third Marquess of Bute, took a lease on St John's Lodge from the Crown.

Recently, however, the house has emerged from its obscurity and has become the subject of a furious planning row since Fred Koch, the American millionaire, peevishly abandoned his project to convert it into a museum.

application was made in February of this year, the scheme was even more destructive than originally proposed.



The Lodge: best left alone

Lord Perth omitted to mention what it was about Koch's proposals which our statutory planning authorities found so objectionable.

Unfortunately, Koch had other ideas. His American architect ignored the Crown's report and proposed a wholesale reconstruction of the interior.

Lord Perth reproves us for looking a gift horse in the mouth, but it is proper that we should. We should remember how, in 1880, the new Diocese of St Albans granted Lord Grimthorpe a faculty to restore the Cathedral himself.

Philip Howard

Down, doggie doubters

We are letting the jungle back into our cities. The anti-dog, environmentalist, fanatics quote some horrifying statistics about a thousand tons of canine excrement deposited on the streets of London every day.

Curiously, Bevin is further from his Victoria Station dream than ever, to judge by the passport that has just expired.

The latest surprising incursion of the jungle into the big city happened recently to Aunt Alice, while she was sitting watching the television and minding her own business in her flat in South Kensington.

dogs and cats slept at the foot of the bed those days. Many of the primitive gods, from Anubis to the Australian Dream Time were theriomorphic.



Chris Wormell

It is improbable that chatters of chipmunks are colonizing the golden domes and minarets of SW7. The man from the RSPCA says that what happens is that some sopping, Walt Disney-loving Brit goes to the pet shop and spends large sums on an exotic pet, gets it home, and finds it impossible to live with.

Water baby

A 33-year-old multi-millionaire is rapidly winning herself a reputation as the greatest eccentric in yachting. Last week Elizabeth Meyer, of a publishing and banking family from the east coast of America, relaunched a boat.

Fan stance

As yet another hideously depressing football season starts, consider the following crowd figures for the 1975-76 season.

Rain starts play

Never mind rugby and softball - cricket is also blazing a trail for mixed-sex sport.

Rhymers

My request for more sporting limericks has been answered by a mass of fine entries.

BARRY FANTONI



'Aha! So there is a rift with Norman Tebbit'

Bernard Levin

Your passport or your life

The horrid news about the future design and format of this country's passports, revealed last week on this page by Lord Bethell, came as a particularly timely shock to me.

The preface to my first began: "We, Ernest Bevin, request and require, in the name of His Britannic Majesty..."

That first passport was issued in 1946, which was the year I first went abroad.

Nineteen-fifty-six, the year of my second passport, saw the Suez debacle and the Hungarian Revolution.



Philip Younes

find anyone who would commission me to cover it.

With my fourth passport, which began in 1976, I went round the world twice.

I have a far worse problem with my passports, and it is the most obvious of all.

I have always said that if I should be impelled to make away with myself, it would be on New Year's Eve.

SPORTS DIARY Simon Barnes

Gers rule, ya?

A bunch of butch Scottish footballers are getting extremely worried in case they get mistaken for pretty girls called Caroline who cycle around London in Barbour jackets.

Good sports

Richmond, in Surrey, can lay claim to being the most dashing progressive rugby club in the country.

Does nicely

The British boys are already one up on the Americans in the battle for America's Cup supremacy.

Horseplay

A routine race meeting at Folkestone this week was enlivened by the disappearance of two horses.



THE ARTS

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

Television

It is typical of the muddling eccentricities of the British genius that the turbo-charged acceleration of our industrial decline has left untouched our capacity for technical ingenuity...

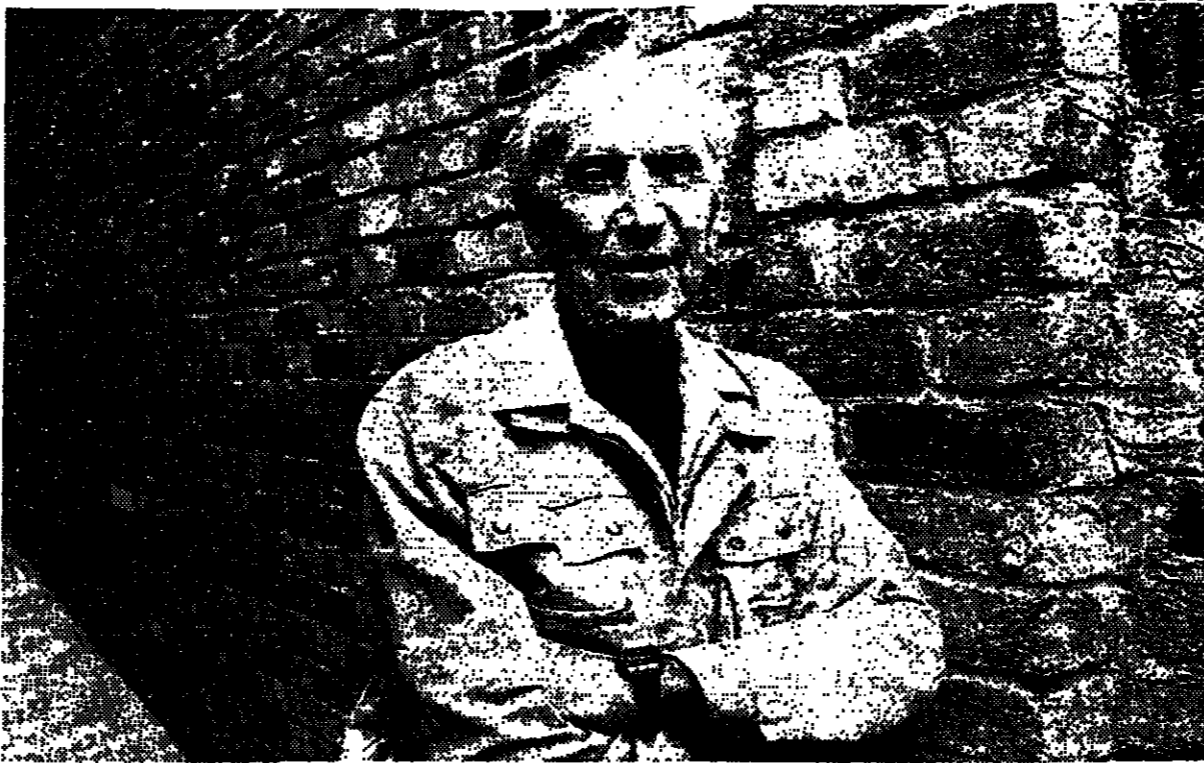
The Great Egg Race is most ingeniously pointless when it requires its teams of mechanical improvisers to invent and build what has already been invented and built. Eager beaver contestants...

Andrew Hislop

Out of the brickwork: Five forgotten films made in the Thirties by Bernard Vorhaus (right) will be shown over the next three days...

From art into life and back

Here's a tough question for the buffs: Which film-maker directed John Wayne and Slicker the seal...



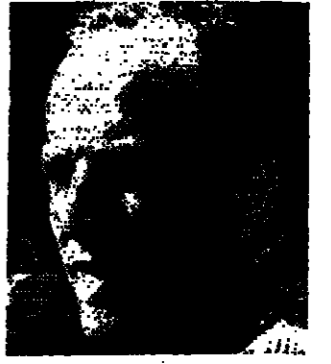
Austrian alps, were "quite fun", while The Spiritualist, a Forties frolic with Turhan Bey as a phoney mystic...

The bizarre twists of Vorhaus's career might almost come from one of his own thrillers. He can trace back his film connections to the second decade of this century...

April 1951. Vorhaus was filming in France. There followed months of European harassment and permit problems with wife and young family in tow...

Cold lives, caught in oceans of space

John Gabriel Borkman King's



For the second time this week, a major European film director has descended on Edinburgh with a stage production...

This production for the Bavarian State Theatre of Munich was first given in May last year, and in the interim has clocked up plenty of bouquets...

Played at a downbeat, conversational pace, Bergman's production stresses the estrangement of the characters by isolating them on the harshly formal sets...

Martin Cropper

Television preview

Central's 90-minute documentary about one of 20th-century music's most bizarre figures, The Noble Savage: Percy Grainger (ITV, tomorrow, 10.30 pm)...

There are visual references ranging from contemporary paintings to fading photographs, peeps into highly private letters and diaries, and a wodge of experts' opinions of variable worth...

It is perhaps impossible to assess the Australian properly without taking into account his pioneering endeavours in the fields of flagellation, bisexuality and racism...

They concoct one particularly explicit sequence. A naked lassie flays a whip around a swimming pool; the composer (loins swimmingly ungirt) lolls in various submissive attitudes...

his lips over a letter from Grainger to a lady called Karen, requesting her to bite with more realism...

Then there are the experts' views. Rattle 'em worth hearing, though too many are dubbed over music that would illustrate the very points he is making...

Bits of many pieces are performed, often excellently. The CSO's playing in The Warriors and Raimund Henrich's singing of the haunting shanty "Shallow Brown" are exciting both visually and aurally...

The sequence devoted to his electronic experiments only demonstrates how pathetically amateurish he was in the larger avant-garde context...

Richard Morrison

Theatre in London

Romeo and Juliet Lyric Studio, Hammersmith

It makes sense to play Romeo and Juliet as a lyric poem, not as the grand-epic dinosaur which it has too frequently become...

Kenneth Branagh both directs and stars in a rewarding new production at the Lyric Studio, and his success qualified though it must be a great deal to do with youth, energy and attack...

Richard Morrison



Samantha Bond as Juliet. There is a spare psychological power in the straightforwardness of this approach. Branagh's Romeo is good-humoured and great-hearted...

Rock La Fura dels Baus Isle of Dogs

Perhaps the long delays before boarding the bus at the ICA and again before being admitted to the vast warehouse on the Isle of Dogs were part of a process for softening up the audience...

An almost naked man swept through the audience swinging a huge lump of metal on a chain, missing the heads and feet of bystanders by inches...

Formed in 1982, La Fura dels Baus have developed the carnival tradition of Spanish street performance into an unique theatre of grotesqueries...

What it all meant was anybody's guess. I wondered, while dodging a man skidding through a pool of water on a supermarket trolley...

David Sinclair

Radio Chirpy cheerless chatter

I recently heard the true story of a famous Radio 2 "personality" who, having interviewed the nervous and un-showbizzy female survivor of a concentration camp...

Start The Week (Radio 4) sets the tone every Monday morning. Last Monday's choice of guests was awful: vile agents and impresarios including Dabber...

Equally professional was Victor Lowmes, ex-Playboy man, on A Touch of Midas (Radio 4, Monday). He felt that he had no need to remind the interviewer, William Davis...

with love, with society, with himself, and with "this everlasting obsessive bloody music". It shouldn't be so rare to be able to listen to one man speaking seriously about life on the radio...

Craig Brown

THE TOKYO BALLT. MAURICE BÉJART'S THE KABUKI. 47 SAMURAI. LES SYLPHIDES SYMPHONY IN D TAM TAM ET PERCUSSION. Royal Opera House.

NOT TO BE MISSED... THE EVENT OF THE YEAR! THE DANTON. RSC BARBICAN THEATRE. 01 628 8795/638 8891.

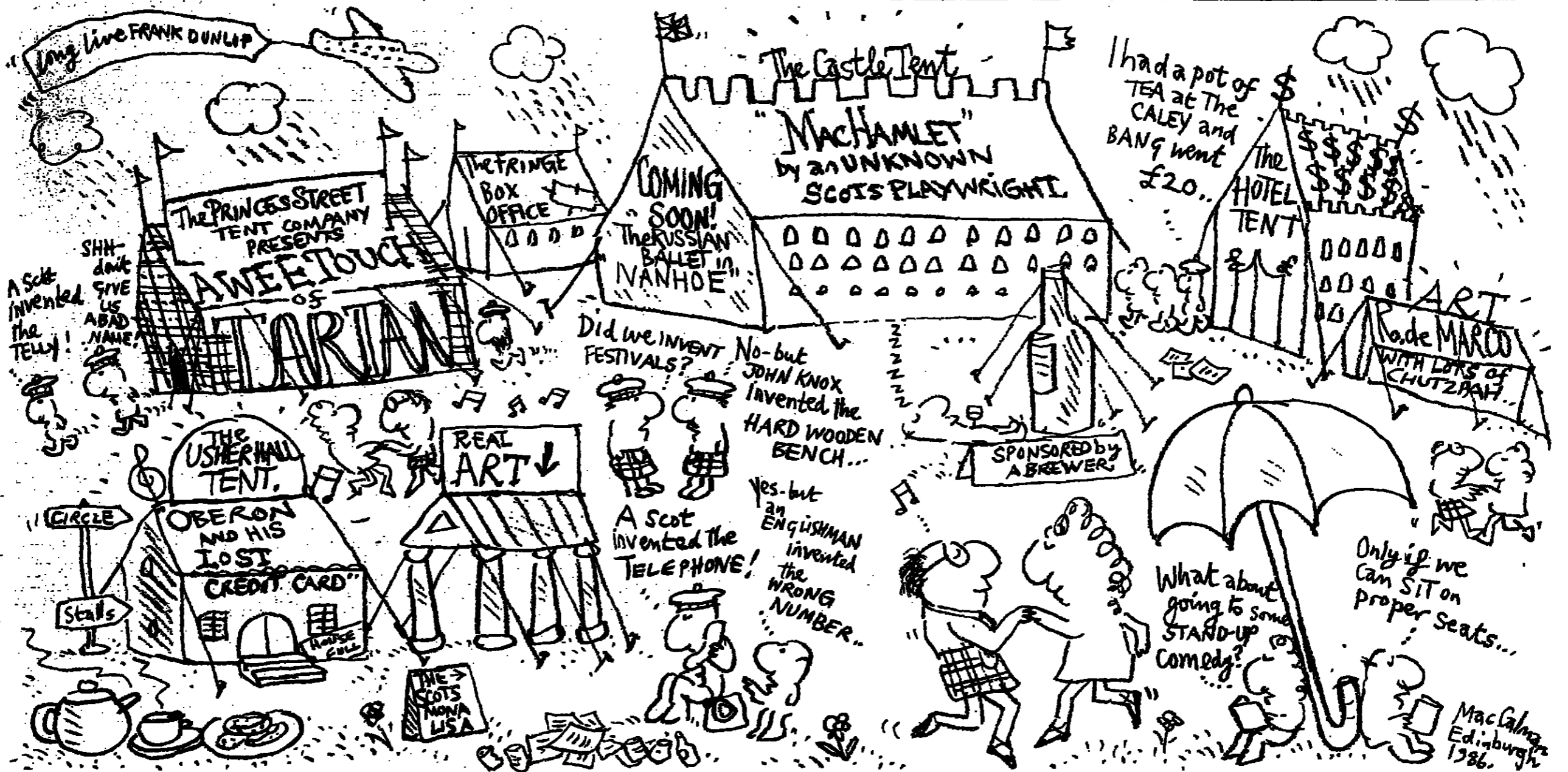
Money. FROM COWRE SHELLS TO CREDIT CARDS. BRITISH MUSEUM. ADMISSION FREE.



August 16-22, 1986

SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts



Frenzied and fraying at the Fringe

In Edinburgh at festival time, Miles Kington and Mel Calman find bottles full of music and streets paved with art

I look around for the artist, but the only two candidates are a young man lying asleep on a bench, and a man on the next bench strapping a cardboard sporan on to his kilt. As I watch the young man sits upright, is violently sick and goes back to sleep again, so I ask the man fighting the sporan if he is the artist. Honesty fights rapaciousness on his features, and wins.

PEOPLE say that the fringe is getting out of hand, with far too much of everything, but this is not really so. What's happening is that it is developing many more layers than it ever had: Once upon a time there were two layers, the Oxford and Cambridge groups, to whom everyone flocked, and all the others. Now there are different venues which hand-pick talent and are virtually assured for good houses for all their acts (Assembly Rooms, George Square Theatre, Elephant Tent, Comedy Boom, anything with "Marco" in it).

time for temporary structures, from the Tattoo scaffolding to little piles of canvas marked either Information or Hamburgers. Beck's Spiegeltent is meant to be on the Meadows, but it hadn't arrived when I went to look. There's an inflatable replica of the National Gallery on top of the National Gallery.

sitting in the corner of the cafe tent. To the uninitiated ear, concert saxophone music seems to either transcribed oldies, slightly jazzy numbers or lyrical pieces by, usually, Belgian composers. Whatever they played, they made sound delicious, and the audience of about 70 (half of local half earnest fringe-goers clutching their guide) let it wash over them.

here?" But of course, being British, none of us bothers to answer and the tempo flags. Ben Keaton is in Intimate Memoirs of an Irish Taxidermist, and people who are talking in terms of Flann O'Brien about this one-man show at the Assembly Rooms are on the right track, but Keaton is his own man. I don't know who he is, but I think he is marvellous and a real charmer.

Weber's Oberon. Personally I love Weber, and hate opera, so I am relieved find that it isn't an opera at all but a pantomime. Pity about those ridiculous operatic voices, which come at you like non-stopped clotted cream, but you can't have everything. Mel's verdict is that it is good but there are dull patches.

and sunbathing in cemeteries. Now suddenly it's coming down by the litre, and the coat shops are doing grand business. On a whim, I make a pilgrimage to see the painting of the Virgin and Child by the pavement artist, and sure enough it's starting to vanish like a vision, a dissolving dream of great art. Mel leans down, like the artist he is and rubs a corner of the painting with his thumb.

There aren't many people stirring in Edinburgh on a Sunday morning, not even when it's the first day of the festival and the sun is blazing down. A couple of weeks of the Commonwealth Games is enough to keep anyone in bed, in case they should find the damned thing is still going on. A man I know told me he was scared to go swimming at the Commonwealth Pool now, in case someone should emerge from the shadows and say: "Congratulations! You're lying tenth in the Springboard, behind Guernsey."

"No, actually, I'm just a busker, up here with my mate to earn a few bob. We've been rehearsing for three weeks and we've got a decent act together - we just need a harp for the group now. We're wavering between Macintosh, and The Almost Amusing Brothers. What do you reckon?"

There are acts which come back year after year till they guarantee good houses no matter what the venue - this year, the Brass Band, the Flying Karamazov Brothers, Harvey and the Wallbangers, Fascinating Aida, anything with the word McGough in it. Then there are unknown groups hanging on to famous names such as Dostoevsky, Beckett and Flann O'Brien. There are groups who have gambled heavily on revue names like "Just a Little Prick with a Needle" or "The Wobly Spanky Botchy Show", though the latter is said to be very good. There are imperishable Polish groups, which always go down well. There are groups which were new last year - the Merry Mac Fun Show and Trestle Tables can do no wrong at the moment.

For the last three years Edinburgh District Council has been Labour and has threatened to withdraw support from such an elitist opera-loving festival which brings nothing to the natives. I think they have a point.

The tent was pink and white, slightly ruffled, and what with the sun coming in through every crevice and the wind ruffling the fabric, it was like being inside a huge wedding dress. One or two locals crept out politely. A tiny girl sat fascinated, playing her bent drinking straw as if it were a saxophone. Kids laughed outside, the wind flapped and the noise of the saxophone curled delicately everywhere like tendrils of sound. A beautiful 35 minutes.

MEL Calman, fresh from opening his cartoon show at the Queen's Hall, says he would be delighted to go with me to the opera, as long as it is not in a tent, and we ascend to the Grand Circle of the Usher Hall for three hours of

THEN suddenly it's all over. Funny weather I mean. Edinburgh has had four days of lovely heat, topless unicyclists

We start running. It's not really so much the rain as the thought that we still have another 920 shows to see.

10.30am, at the very top of Easter Road, I see the first people moving. They are opening up the Mandela Theatre, a new fringe venue and the only place in the world named after Nelson Mandela. Everywhere else has been renamed after him, but this seems to have started out life as the Mandela Theatre, under the auspices of Jimmy Boyle, reformed Glasgow murderer. Are there Jimmy Boyle Theatres in South Africa, the odd Jimmy Boyle Avenue here and there? It would be nice to think so.

"Well, I think there's too many of us here, and there really isn't the room. Next door, for instance, there's a guy starting on Picasso's 'Harlequin', and he's getting very close."

There is Oxford and Cambridge. There are the medical groups. There is the man who approaches me in a urinal in a Cockburn Street pub and says, "You don't know me, but I'm from Welbeck College and we're presenting a piece in Canongate about Edward II, called The Man who Lost at Bannockburn, you know, the king who was killed by a red-hot poker. We haven't decided how to stage that yet, but I fancy a hot poker and a pound of liver. All proceeds go to disabled servicemen." He seems unaware of the irony.

During the first week, this Dome has operated with great success, drawing in the locals in a way in which they had not previously responded to opera, mime or medical revues with spotty-bum titles. But it belatedly turned out that the council had never granted the Dome a performing rights licence, so although they have been given a temporary permit, there is every chance that a special committee yesterday will have got sniffy and rejected populist entertainment in their midst, thus cutting off their nose to spite their etc. . . . I hope I am wrong, because on Monday afternoon I went down there and had a wonderful time.

Afterwards M. Melzer tells me that as they almost always play in churches for festivals, a tent is a baffling experience for them. He is slightly baffled as to why they are there at all. "I think perhaps it is something to do with the fact that Edinburgh is twinned with Nice, you know? We are all teachers of the saxophone from around Nice, and we are not here for profit-making, but to spread the popularity of the instrument. People tend to hear the word 'saxophone' and think, 'uh-huh, jazz', but there is much more to it than that. Next June we are going to Tokyo for a world saxophone congress. That will be wonderful!"

STAINLESS STEEL GARDEN TOOLS

Looking the parts: Gayle Hunnicutt reveals the secret of all-round success - page 14

Table with 4 columns: Arts Diary, Bridge, Chess, Concerts, Crossword, Dance, Drink, Eating Out, Films, Galleries, Gardening, Out and About, Opera, Radio, Review, Rock & Jazz, Shopping, Television, Times Cook, Travel.

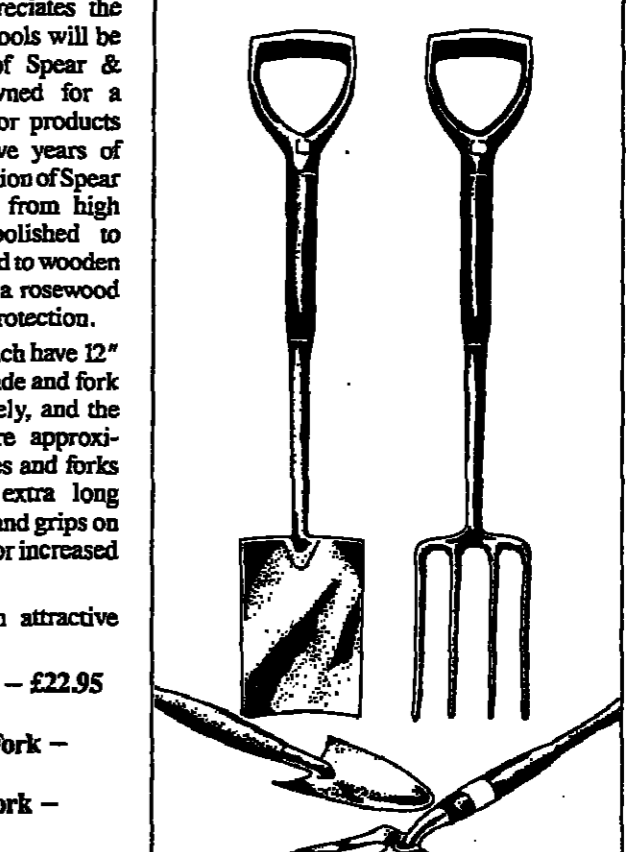
10.40 am, in Regent Road, I see my second people moving. Regent Road is a long, uninhabited street where Edinburgh buses normally try to do the ton, but today it is blocked off for the start of the Festival. One single lorry is already in position, a whole four hours early, swarming with the bright young members of the California Repertory Theatre. An affable man called Bill explains why.

"Well, we're performing in a church and they need it for the Sunday morning service, so they've thrown us out. I think that's fair, don't you? Just as well it's fine weather. By the way, we're putting on eight productions there, for instance there's a very funny play called Isle of Dogs which shows Shakespeare having trouble with the Arts Council, here. I'll get you a leaflet..."

Then there are the buskers, pavement artists, etc. who are actually below the fringe. All clear?

It was for a performance by the Jacques Melzer Saxophone Quartet: four Frangemen in perfect evening gear

Any gardener who appreciates the value of good quality tools will be familiar with the name of Spear & Jackson. They are renowned for a variety of tools and outdoor products which are designed to give years of reliable service. This collection of Spear & Jackson tools is made from high quality stainless steel, polished to perfection and securely fitted to wooden shafts which are stained to a rosewood hue and deeply waxed for protection.



These tools combine an attractive finish with durability. Prices: Trowel & Fork Set - £22.95 per set, Digging Spade & Fork - £42.95 each, Border Spade & Fork - £39.95 each

Please send me Trowel & Fork Set @ £22.95 per set, Digging Spade(s) @ £42.95 each, Digging Fork(s) @ £42.95 each, Border Spade(s) @ £39.95 each, Border Fork(s) @ £39.95 each

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10.45 am, and already I have my first leaflet. I move hastily on to the very start of Princes Street, still deserted in the sunshine, and find two pictures lying on the ground: "Rembrandt at 23" and "The Laughing Cavalier", done in chalk on pavement (1986). The artist has chalked a message beside them: "Photographers, please be generous - I can't take the pictures home with me."

THE TENTS are back again. Edinburgh Festival is a great

THE TIMING OF THE JOKE (which is the same one) got laughs in both places, but the way the joke is shaped seems to say something about the gap between American and British stand-up comedy. Theirs is snappy, shoulder-slapping, a bit old-fashioned. All three Los Angeles comedians laughed a lot, and they all made the mistake of addressing the audience in search of an answer.

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Fishing is a crazy sport, eh? The only one where, if you win, you get to eat your opponent! Does anyone here like fishing? Any fishermen

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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL



Underneath the arches: Moroccan street musicians and (right) the village of Tafroute which nestles beneath a terrifying outcrop of rock

Marching through Morocco

Organized excursions do not always live up to their promises, as Elizabeth Jane Howard discovered

This was my first visit to Agadir and also, incidentally to Morocco and I was on a week's package tour. Old Agadir had been on a mountain overlooking the sea and it is now simply a mountain; the remains of the town were bulldozed and covered over after the devastating earthquake in 1976. New Agadir is a sprawling, fast-growing place built below - most of the hotels are by the sea or very near it, and the town is a few minutes' walk inland. The weather is good, it is not expensive, and consequently it is a popular resort. But is it a desert?

The hotels are large and white, either built either on the biscuit-tin principle, or as a quantity of bungalows set in rather shakily green bits of garden, but they are well run, clean and efficient.

The sky is largely blue and the palms and olive trees make it clear that you are abroad. The streets are full of strolling tourists, and from the stalls and shops Moroccans try by every means in their power ("You English? Come into my shop and translate a letter for me") to get them to buy anything from tangerines to beautiful leather or a carpet.

My friends had taken an apartment: I had a double room on half-board. A single woman invariably loses out in hotels. My room was almost pitch-dark at any time of the day or night.

If it had not been that, I reflected gloomily, it would have been the hottest, or the noisiest. I shared it with a most charming cat, seemingly pregnant and probably single also. She crept in through the

window every night and was quite difficult to wake up in the morning.

There were a number of excursions to choose from, but as I had only six days we decided upon one day of going to a village in the Anti Atlas mountains, and a two-day excursion to Marrakesh, which left three for swimming, basking and sampling the local restaurants. The most enjoyable, the Restaurant la Pierre du Soud, was about 20 minutes' walk into town. It specialized in Moroccan food - couscous, kebabs and tagine - and was comfortably full of French. It was inexpensive and very good.

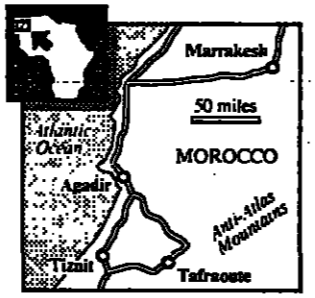
We set off for the village called Tafroute early in the morning, driving at first through unexpectedly green agricultural land where quantities of vegetables and tomatoes are grown. In the foothills of the mountains the country gradually became wilder, less green, with rocks and reddish earth, cactus and the sturdy thorn trees called *algon* which were amazingly encrusted with elegant black goats who climb them to feed upon the fruit.

There were steep plantations of almond trees - a ravishing sight, as however small were some of the trees, they were all in flower, every shade from dark brilliant pink to nearly white. We stopped in a village called Tiznit which, we were told, was famous for its silver market but our guide, a formidable Belgian lady,

said there was no time to visit it so we made do with mint tea and moved on.

By now it was hot but we were climbing steeply and at about 6,300 feet we were taken on a rather comic - and pointless - visit to a castle/hotel/folly built, or rather half-built, by the owner of a perpetual wind and with a view whose chief virtue was that there was a lot of it.

We were hurried on to Tafroute and lunch in the sun. The chief feature of Tafroute were the terrifying rocks and boulders that were poised over the pink and yellow houses, as though an avalanche had been frozen in mid-hurricane. Not a restful situation, in spite of the palms and olive trees. By the time we got back to Agadir we had driven nearly 200 miles, which included a great many hairpin bends. There was no time for looting about or exploring, but then excursions are like that. I was glad of a day off before tackling Marrakesh.



Another early start. This time our guide was a dashing but essentially melancholy young Berber who did his level best to keep us informed during the four-hour drive - through mountains again, across a large plateau with a reservoir, and then down miles of a straightish road edged with eucalyptus trees into Marrakesh, ending up at a large hotel where they did not seem at all pleased to see us.

We were provided with a fairly nasty lunch and then herded into the bus again for sightseeing. I had been looking forward to Marrakesh, but in fact it was both daunting and disappointing. To start with, we drove to the tourist HQ because our guide said he was not allowed to guide us in the souk, we had to have someone local.

This proved difficult but eventually a guide was found. We drove to the old part of the town and started to walk through a maze of narrow streets that became the souk. It was explained that we could not stop to buy anything in the

souk, that we must make an effort to stay together and not get lost.

This pretty well halved the pleasure to be got from such a place: souks are for loitering in, for bargaining, for watching all the amazing encapsulated activities: five boys and men sewing shirts in a small black room with daylight only for the two nearest the street; boys beating what looked like the metal trim from motor cars into rather awful little ashtrays; hanks of wool dyed in beautiful yellows and reds and greens being hung up to dry; fruit, leather, carpets, chickens, rabbits, herbs, spices, silks, silver jewellery and beads, caftans, rolls of velvet, pyramids of eggs and lemons...

We marched through all this at military speed emerging, in my case rather sulkily, in the huge square where old men, looking like the Chorus in *Henry V*, were telling stories or were enjoying rather dazed-looking cobras to behave in the way people expect cobras to behave.

In the evening we were to have a Moroccan feast with Berber dancing (we were strongly discouraged from going out on the town on our own). The feast took place in what looked like a disused cinema - a sort of 1930s Odeon with carpet on the walls, and tables on various levels in the auditorium looking on to a stage. The meal was not good and it was expensive, but the show and the dancing - at least to one unaccustomed to it - was enjoyable. Full of ferocious energy and acrobatic skill.

Seven-night holidays in Morocco with Thomson Holidays, with direct flights to Marrakesh and half-board accommodation in a 4-star hotel cost from £172 in low season. Telephone numbers for Thomson Holidays reservations are listed in the back of the Winter Sun brochure.

The coastline is clear

Turkey's southern coast is full of delights, as Henry McNulty discovered



Talking Turkey: time to chat, at ease in Anatolia

Travellers lucky enough to remember the Costa Brava in the 1950s will be glad to know that their experience can almost be relived today - on the south coast of Turkey.

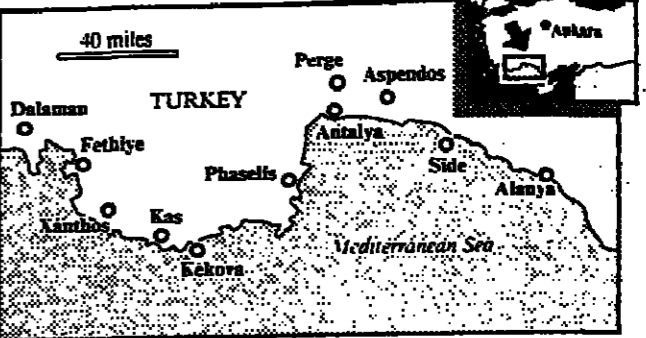
In Turkey now, as once in Spain, the natives are friendly, the prices right, the land and seascapes superbly similar. Anatolia, of course, was already a civilized area in Hittite days (when Iberia was yet unheard of) so Turkey luxuriates in fabulous ruins from all epochs.

The least costly transport of all is the *dolmus* bus. *Dolmus* means "stuffed" and that is what they are - with passengers. These vehicles, anything from an ancient limousine to an ordinary taxi, wait until they have packed every seat before taking off. Their destination is shown on a placard on the windscreen.

The most luxurious way to see the Vermilion coast is by boat. If a week-long trip in a hired yacht is too much of a good thing, there are day excursions lasting nine or ten hours on a boat with a group, for about 2,000 liras. We hired a "yacht" of our own with a two-man crew and stopped wherever we wished for a swim in the limpid water for 25,000 liras (about £25) a day.

For long open beaches, Alanya, with two huge scimitars of sand about 150 kilometres east of Antalya airport, would be hard to better. Alanya has several simple, modern hotels and under its handsome Seljuk fortress are several curious grottoes visible by boat.

Travelling westward, a site not to miss is Side, with a fine beach and a top-notch hotel, the Turul. Side itself is a tiny village built among Greek and Roman ruins - its museum is in one-time Roman bath. Twenty kilometres further on,



At Aspendos, a huge Roman theatre stands almost intact and the hot climb up to Aspendos's acropolis is worth the effort. Antalya, the biggest modern city on this part of the coast, is full of traffic and tourists, but has a charming up-dated old port. We whipped through it to go on to peaceful Phaselis, after which the road winds through scenic bays, up and down cliffs, to Kas, a tiny, hardly discovered seaside village.

Hotels are scarce. Ours, the Turkish Airlines, 11 Hanover Street, London W1 (01-499 9747) fly to Antalya or Dalaman airports. Return fares start at £400 return. Sunquest Holidays, 9 Aldine Street, London W2 (01-748 9911) will arrange expeditions to suit most requirements - air transport only, hotels and land travel, or a packaged tour. Turkish buses are fast and cheap: Istanbul to Antalya (700 kilometres) costs about £4.

Yenier, though extremely basic, was the best in town with - as the owner proudly declared - "your own balcony" (about three feet square). We took a boat ride to Kekova, along the coast, over a "sunken city" forcibly relocated by an earthquake, to lunch delectably on fresh seafood at a grape-arboured restaurant under a Seljuk fortress.

Fethiye itself, though wrecked in an earthquake some years ago, is worth waiting for, sited as it is on a lovely landlocked bay. We took an all-day boat tour of the bay's 12 islands, and to the attractive beach at Oludeniz that appears on many a Turkish tourist poster.

One privately owned island not only had its own beach and mansion but a private Greek ruin beside it. Another was "Pig Island", home of wild boars (which the Turks, being Muslims, don't eat). "Easy to catch them, though", was the captain's tip, "as they swim from island to island".

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Summer bargains

Conwy Valley has dropped its rate for dinner, bed and breakfast from £30 to £22 per night. Information from the Welsh Tourist Board on 0492 34626.

Impulse holiday-buyers wanting a charter flight from Gatwick at a few hours' notice can take advantage of a new service. Availability and fares can be checked with Holidayfax on 01-878 9141 or through a participating travel agent. The service is currently limited to sea-only flights.

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SHOPPING

Write on, with a pen

Home thoughts from abroad are likely to be more legible this month. Manufacturers and retailers are reporting big increases in the sales of expensive fountain pens as the British adopt the European idea that a pen should be classed as a piece of jewellery. Mont Blanc started it all, became a status symbol - much too fat for small fingers, but impressive when wielded by a merchant banker with hands like Orson Welles.

The once humble fountain pen is now a desirable designer piece says Beryl Downing. amounts, giving a flow like a fountain pen with the convenience of a ballpoint, with its thicker and stickier ink. Fibre tips, which are filled with wadding, have a small but devoted following, particularly among artists and those who like very fine lines, but these too are being replaced by rollerballs.

are concentrating on fountain pens, roller-balls and ball-points. From the top of the range Premier Noir at £100 to the modern young Arrow Black at £40. In fashion terms Lamy, from Germany, is the flavour of the season in streamlined black or white from their monochromatic guru of style, Oggetti and Joseph Four La Maison, and now at the new Lefax shop in Covent Garden where there is a range of pens to complement their loose-leaf binders. Specialist shops and departments are the places to find the best collections and advice rather than chain stations.



grandson of a London quill-maker, he has been a pen collector for 20 years and his enthusiasm is infectious. He will show you early fountain pens that had to be filled with an eye-dropper, a beautiful Georgian dip pen in tortoiseshell inlaid with gold (£350). Victorian pens with a tiny Stanhope spy glass in the top. Hold it to the light and you see various views, from Eastbourne to the Eiffel Tower (£28 to £48). Penfriend claims to be the largest pen repairer in Europe, and in its old-fashioned workshop has boxes full of out-

- Pen friends: 1. Waterman pen in briarwood and gold, £220, Harrods. 2. Dunhill pen with hand-polished mirror finish and 23ct gold clip, £75 from Dunhill's Gemline range. 3. Black and gold Parker Premier Noir pen, £100, Harrods. 4. Mable Todd early 1920s eye-dropper pen in gilt and vulcanite, £58, and 5. Victorian carved ivory dip pen with Stanhope viewer, £28.50, both at Penfriend. 6. Waterman blue enamel pen with splashes of real gold dust, £195, Harrods. 7. Parker Arrow Black rollerball, £25, Harrods. 8. White and black rollerball, £2.25, and 9. Black fibre tip, £3, both by Lamy at Oggetti. 10. Mont Blanc black ballpoint, £20, and 11. Silvery Lamy Twin pen (ballpoint and pencil), £19.90, both Lefax. 12. Terracotta and grey Yves St Laurent rollerball, £75, Pen Shop. Centre: a reproduction label from Luggage Labels by Nicky Bird - a book of 12 peel-off labels, £4.95 from the V & A Museum shop.

Lefax, 28 Shelton Street, London WC2 (01-836 1977). Joseph Four La Maison, 16 Sicone Street, London SW1 (01-235 9668). Oggetti, 100 Jermyn Street, London SW1 (01-930 4694). Penfriend, Bush House Arcade, Bush House, The Strand, London WC2 (01-836 9809). Dunhill, 30 Duke Street, London SW1 (01-489 8566). The Pen Shop, Burlington Arcade, London W1 (01-493 9021).

IN THE GARDEN

Myths of moths and caterpillars

Only a week ago, I counted seven huge and resplendent caterpillars more than an inch long, pale grey, with yellow bands and black spots, feeding on the flowering spikes of my mullein plants. The bold caterpillars were the larvae of the shy and reclusive mullein moth. As they didn't appear to eat very fast or do much damage I left them alone but, much as I bug-watched, I never found the chrysalides nor had even a fleeting glimpse of the moths.



Plume moths, white feathery wraiths, compel admiration, but large numbers of them should tell a gardener to seek out that troublesome weed, hedge bindweed, whose sole saving grace is that it is the food plant of the white plume moth larvae. The exquisite swallow-tailed moth, which has wings like cream silk, and the dramatic garden tiger moth, red and white with its characteristic dark brown tiger blotches, appeared for the first time in our garden this summer. These feed on weed and hedge plants and are no headache for the gardener, unlike the sawflies (more than a thousand species of them) whose caterpillar-like larvae attack roses, turnips, strawberries, and many garden flowers.

We were very little troubled by fruit pests this summer but significant caterpillar attacks should be countered by spraying as soon as they become apparent. (Try liquid derris for small ones, and pyrethrum for large beasts.) Wasps, which up to now have been assiduously feeding their young on aphids and caterpillars, are beginning to widen their search to the dismay of food gardeners and picnickers alike.

Francesca Greenoak

Art Treasures Tours of Turkey. Anatolia Dept September 10 and October 1 18 days £1418. Commencing in Ankara with a visit to the splendid Museum of Ancient Anatolian Civilizations, this tour encompasses all aspects of Turkey's rich and varied history - from the Hittites, Siles of Alaca-Huyuk and Hattusas, to the spectacular rock-cut Byzantine churches of the Goreme Valley, the Seljuk city of Nigde, the beautiful preserved Roman Theatre of Aspendos and the Hellenistic and Byzantine defences of Side, along Turkey's southern shore.

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COWSLIPS Primula Veris. The true wild golden yellow sweet, fragrant British cowslip (grows from seed) first planted 1995 to flower spring of 1997. OXSLIPS Primula Elatior. The true wild primrose yellow sweet, fragrant British cowslip (grows from seed) first planted 1995 to flower spring of 1997. LEYDENS NURSERY, HARTFIELD ROAD, EDENBRIDGE, KENT TN8 5NW.

TURKEY EASTERN TURKEY & THE BLACK SEA 21 DAYS INCLUDING STRAITS 6TH SEPT, & 4TH OCT. DEPARTURES WINDING BEHIND FESTIVAL 6TH OCT. PLUS MANY OTHER DESTINATIONS WORLDWIDE. HANN OVERLAND 185 STREATHAM HIGH ROAD LONDON SW16. 01-749 9253.

WEEKEND TIPS. As the summer raspberries finish fruiting, cut out the old canes. Start a new strawberry now, so that the plants will get established and produce a crop next year. Cut back shoots with withered or dwarf leaves on all kinds of currant bushes.

PLANNED GARDENS. are trouble-free gardens. May we show you what can be done with our Flowering Trees and Shrubs, Roses, Fruit Trees and Bushes, Climbers, Hedges and Border Plants? FREE COLOUR CATALOGUE (17p stamp please) or phone 0452 740266, 11K, mainland only) from HIGHFIELD NURSERIES (16) Whiteknights, Gloucester GL2 7PL.

OUT AND ABOUT

Senses fired by sumptuousness

The treasures of Wilton gave Nigel Andrew a sense of its glorious past

Wilton, the seat of the Earls of Pembroke, is a house that can soon exhaust a person's stock of superlatives. It has that aura of poised perfection which you seldom find even in the stately of stately homes.

The genius whose design still gives Wilton its particular flavour was Inigo Jones, that one-man revolution in English architecture. He was an old man when he took on the job and he died before it was finished, but the results are astonishing — an elegantly simple but perfectly satisfying exterior, and a dazzlingly gorgeous interior.

The imagination is certainly set on fire in the two grandest of the grand state rooms — the Single Cube Room and the famous Double Cube Room. The first of these is a 30ft cube of white and gold paneled walls, elaborate decoration and sumptuously painted ceiling.

Through the window you can see the great lawn with its tremendous cedars. This is where the Royals arrive by helicopter when they drop in to see the Earl. He, lucky man, often fishes for trout before breakfast in the river at the



The wonder of Wilton: the stately of stately homes, whose setting is as stunning as the treasure behind its elegant facade

foot of the lawn. And his children, when younger, used to roller-skate in the elegant cloisters added to the house by Wyatt.

Imagine! Past the Breughels and the Richard Wilsons, past Napoleon's dispatch case and the lock of Queen Elizabeth's hair and the autograph poem by Sidney. Yes — the cloisters alone have more treasures than many a respectable stately home has accumulated. And they are only the start.

But the wonder of Wilton is still the extraordinary Double Cube Room. There is nothing quite like it anywhere in England, and even the Single

Cube cannot prepare you for its impact. Although it is only twice the length of its junior partner, the effect is of an immense space — and of an even more glorious decorative scheme, with huge dark Van Dyck portraits set into the white and gold walls, and the story of Perseus covering the immense, richly wrought ceiling.

It is just the same today as when it was built, and the addition of plush and gilt furniture (by Kent and Chippendale) is perfectly in keeping. The huge sofa at one end is where the Russian Catherine Woronzow, wife of the 11th Earl, used to sit,

surrounded entirely by her dogs. Finding herself with many daughters to marry off, she converted the Double Cube into a ballroom — which did the trick.

During the last war, when Wilton was the secret headquarters of Southern Command, there was the Operations Room, where much of the advance planning for D-Day was done. The army occupation has left surprisingly little trace, though in another room you can still see damage to the ceiling caused by an officer's overflowing bath.

The rest of Wilton is almost as overwhelming as the Dou-

ble Cube Room, but for a different reason — the sheer quantity of superb paintings hanging thickly on the walls. Rembrandt, Rubens, Hals, Andrea del Sarto, Ribera — every room is like a corner of the National Gallery (though a great deal better looking). There are more homely items too — Catherine Woronzow's Russian sleigh, even Fred Astaire's dancing shoes — but the aesthetic senses are certainly reeling by the time you step out on to the lawn.

I recommend sitting by the river for a while. There you can have a closer look at the exquisitely beautiful Palladian bridge, designed by the ninth

IN THE TOWN

The little town of Wilton, which sits at the gates of the House, is well worth exploring. The parish church has to be seen to be believed — St Mary and St Nicholas, built in the 1840s by the 1st Baron Herbert, is huge, utterly improbable, and stuffed with treasures from all over Europe. The remains of the old parish church overlook the bustling market square.

There is a green, unfortunately bisected by the busy main road, and all the main streets have some handsome old houses, both timber-framed and stone-built. There is a tea room, the Copper Kettle on West Street, and the town has several good pubs, including the Greyhound on Market Square and — the big one, right opposite the gates — the Pembroke Arms, which does a decent cheapish lunch.

And of course there is the Wilton Royal Carpet Factory, established by the eighth Earl to provide local employment, and still going strong. Less than three miles away, what's more, is the city of Salisbury, which is among English cities roughly what Wilton is among stately homes. In fact Wilton, chartered in 1130, can claim to be an older town than Salisbury. Enough said.

Earl. He was one of many accomplished patrons and connoisseurs in the family line — not least the third and fourth Earls, "the incomparable pair of brethren" to whom Shakespeare's First Folio is dedicated, and Mary Sidney, sister of Philip and wife of the second Earl. She may well have commissioned the first performance of *As You Like It*, in the courtyard at Wilton. And what better setting could there have been?

Wilton House, near Salisbury, is open until Oct 12 — Tues-Sat and Bank Holiday Mondays 11am-6pm, Sun 1-6pm.

OUTINGS

GREENWICH CLIPPER WEEKS: Events on and around the River Thames include barge, tall ship and dinghy races, river cruises, children's workshops, films at the National Maritime Museum and "have a go" sessions in angling, rowing, canoeing, sub-aqua exploration and sailing at the Aquatic Centre in Woolwich.

FUNDAY: Free show for all visitors to Covent Garden. Attractions include the Waddington double decker play-world bus, miniature tramway layout with working models, and a chance to "drive" a full-size tram with motors running.

SHREWSBURY FLOWER SHOW: Third largest flower show in the country with more than 4,000 blooms on display. Supporting events include live music and show jumping.

NUNHEAD CEMETERY OPEN DAY: Conducted tours of the 52-acre Victorian cemetery at 11.30am and 2.30pm, exhibition of the history and wildlife of the site, demonstrations of practical conservation work, genealogy enquiry desk, memorial stone and tree-bark rubbing, competition trails and refreshments throughout.

GARLIC FESTIVAL: One-day event to learn more about garlic's many culinary uses and creative powers. Also a garlic gripping contest, garlic queen, stalls, sideshows and refreshments.

Fighting Cocks, Cross Road, Arretton, Isle of Wight (0983 865229). Tomorrow 11am-6pm, adult £1.50, child 50p.

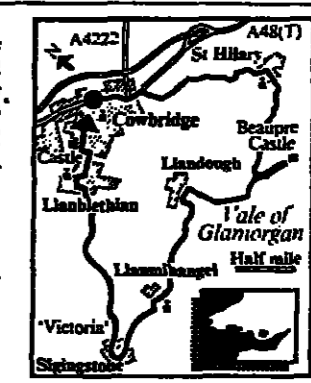
Judy Froshaug

WEEKEND WALK

VALE OF GLAMORGAN: Distance: 9 miles. For walkers fed up with oilseed rape I recommend the Vale of Glamorgan, south of the market town of Cowbridge. Here small thickly-hedged pastures cross intimate rolling hills with never a trace of rape, just gentle cattle cropping the rich grasses.

Cowbridge has a long High Street of mainly Georgian houses, which becomes more cottagey as you head east to reach the path over the fields to St Hilary, a picturesque village, part stone and part render and slate, with a fine church. South-west out of the village walk down the lane to where a footpath leads to Beaupre Castle, pronounced "Booper" locally, a medieval manor house turned into a courtyard mansion by Richard Bassett in the late 16th century with a fine columned inner porch.

Walk through small fields over to Llandough before turning south-west through



the wood. Follow a green lane, cross meadows and emerge at Llanmihangel with its superb 16th-century stone manor house opposite an intimate parish church.

A stroll along a wooded lane leads to Stington and lunch at the Victoria pub. Afterwards walk north-east to Llanblethian. The church is on the western hill facing the romantic ruin of the castle gatehouse across the steep river valley. A short walk along the river bank and we are back in Cowbridge.

Martin Andrew

GUEST COOK

Waking up to a feast of fun and fungi

In the third of our summer series by top chefs, IAN and SUSAN WEEKS cook a luxurious Sunday breakfast for themselves and their son. Their restaurant, Weeks at Glemsford in Suffolk, earns high praise in the Good Food Guide

"How do you stay slim with all this delicious food around?" We are asked that question at least twice a week, yet it always takes us by surprise. The answer is so simple — when we're busy there is no time to eat and when we're not, the last thing that we wish to do is to cook restaurant meals for ourselves.

We originally entered the business because we enjoyed food and entertaining, but now we have little time or inclination to indulge ourselves. Eating out isn't the answer, being in a restaurant five evenings a week is sufficient. The real pleasure comes from being invited to dinner by friends, some of whom are also restaurateurs and share the same pressures and problems, to enjoy a relaxing evening where the social occasion is at least as important as the food.

There is, however, one time during the week, when, if all the right factors combine, we spoil ourselves and cook Sunday breakfast.

The essence of the meal is simplicity, spontaneity, and

cooperation. It is strictly a family affair with our three-year-old son, Paul, setting the table, and leaving us in no doubt of his preferences.

Freshly squeezed fruit juices, orange for Ian and me, pink grapefruit for Paul, help to awaken us while we prepare our main dish. This is where the cooperation is essential; scrambled eggs need constant supervision and the kidneys need to be cooked quickly.

Scrambled egg filled parasol mushrooms and calves' kidneys with red wine vinegar

- Serves three
8 free range eggs
Small knob of butter
Freshly milled sea-salt and black pepper
Wild parsley
2 small or 1 larger calf's kidney
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar (home made if possible)
3 large parasol or field mushrooms
Clarified butter, olive oil or a mixture of the two



Making a meal of mushrooms: Susan, Paul and Ian Weeks with the fruits of a successful morning's hunt in the woods

Remove all suet and membrane from the kidneys. Cut them into four, length-ways, to facilitate the removal of the core and slice them thinly (1/2cm). Season with pepper.

Freheat the grill. Begin to cook the mushrooms in a little clarified butter over a moderate flame in a cast iron pan. Season them with salt and pepper, add a squeeze of lemon juice and place them under a gentle grill until cooked. Cover and keep warm.

Meanwhile break six eggs into a bowl and beat them with a fork until yolk and white are amalgamated. Do not over beat or incorporate air. Melt a small knob of butter in a heavy pan over a low heat, add the eggs and stir

continuously until a thick, creamy consistency is achieved. Cool the pan by dipping it into cold water to prevent overcooking. Season, add freshly snipped parsley and fill the parasols.

When the eggs are almost ready, fry the kidneys over a high flame in clarified butter or oil. This must be done very quickly. They should be rosy pink. Season them and keep warm.

De-glaze the pan with wine vinegar, adding any escaped juices from mushrooms or kidneys. Pour this over the plated kidneys, and serve with the filled mushrooms. Triangles of fried bread are an excellent accompaniment if time allows.

Interesting fungi come to us courtesy of Michael and Victoria Stephenson, who have an excellent restaurant near to ancient woodlands rich with mushroom territory.

Prime locations are kept secret, but we have been introduced to less productive areas. To compensate for depriving us of this valuable knowledge, Victoria gives us unusual preserves based on ingredients from her kitchen garden.

These feature strongly in any good breakfast, served with either warm brioche or freshly made drop-scones. The batter for the scones takes very little time to make whilst other parts of the breakfast are being organized. We eat them as they come from the griddle.

- Drop-scones
Serves three
85g (3oz) plain flour
Pinch of salt
1 teaspoon baking powder
2 teaspoons castor sugar
1 tablespoon melted butter
1 egg yolk
120ml (4fl oz) fresh milk

The batter may be made while the griddle is being heated. Sift the dry ingredients into a mixing bowl, make a well in the centre, and add the egg yolk and melted butter. Gradually add the milk, beating well.

Lightly grease the heated griddle (or heavy frying pan), and drop spoonfuls of the mixture on to it to give perfectly rounded scones. As soon as they are puffed and brown them lightly on the other side. If they have to be kept warm, use the folds of a clean napkin.

- Victoria's damson and geranium leaf jam
Makes about 4.5kg (10lb)
2.3kg (5lb) damsons
2.7kg (6lb) preserving sugar
A handful of rose geranium leaves tied in muslin

Warm the sugar in a low oven. Place the damsons in a preserving pan, with 900ml (1 1/2 pints) of water and the leaves. Simmer together for 30 minutes, by which time the sugar will be warm enough to add. When the sugar has been added, bring everything gently to a rolling boil, stirring continuously.

When the rolling boil has been achieved, the stones may be skimmed. Test for setting point by watching drops fall off a wooden spoon. When it falls from the spoon in large drops, place a small amount of jam on to a saucer to confirm that the setting point has been reached. (Damsos are high in pectin and are a good introduction to jam-making.)

Clean and sterilize the jars while the jam is boiling. Keep them warm in the oven. Remove the muslin and pot the jam, topping each jar with a fresh rose geranium leaf. Cover with greaseproof paper immediately, but allow the pots to cool completely before sealing. Store in a cool, dry, and dark place.

A large pot of freshly roasted African coffee, maybe a Kenyan, compliments the sweeter part of the breakfast. We use a Cafetiere and grind the coffee immediately before pouring on the water. Having the time to spend on a mere breakfast for ourselves makes us feel quite pampered, even if we do have to wash up afterwards, and we are well prepared for the day ahead.

EATING OUT

From a go-go girl to French cuisine

The extent to which restaurants have become a metropolitan craze is tidily illustrated in Chiswick. This quarter of west London includes an area called Chiswick Village with some fine, tile-hung houses nearing their century and near the High Road streets of "quicker cottages" with louvre shutters and mauve front doors.

The restaurants that now line the High Road are fighting for the same cake that existed 10 years ago, when there was hardly any contest at all: then there was a Turkish joint with a go-go dancer posing as a belly dancer (she came from Gloucestershire), and a bistrot with a good line in candlewax with everything.

Now there are a dozen or more establishments on or close to the High Road and they all appear to be thriving, one gets the feeling that each of the restaurants has a fix on a

specific slice of the potential custom.

It would be difficult, for instance, to imagine devotees of Mirage being much taken with Le Picotin, and vice versa. If you are a fan of Le Picotin you no doubt feel that Mirage is too smooth, that it looks like the sort of cocktail bar which serves petrol-coloured drinks named by bad gag writers.

And so it does, up to a point: it has the inevitable grey walls with tawdry pictures and an all-male staff who look as though they know just how shaggy moustaches have to be this year. But it also serves some useful dishes: the fancy ones are the best.

The straightforwardly prepared vegetables were horrible — underdone potatoes (is this

Chiswick, once a gastronomic desert, now caters for every taste, says Jonathan Meades



A large starter of monkfish, salmon, langoustine and prawns in a wine and cream sauce was a thoroughly superior version of this cliché: a chicken breast was perfectly roasted, sauced with saffron and cream and served with a plump of Uncle Ben-type rice — the idea was camp, the result was excellent. £47 for two.

Le Picotin was probably not set up as the wilful antithesis of all this but might as well have been. It is, decoratively, late period Peace Convoy — hurriedly done by the cack-handed under the direction of the colour-blind, apple green walls, bare brick, red chairs.

Service is by a couple of efficient young women and the cooking is done by someone who comes (I overheard) from St Etienne and I imagine that he trained with his mother.

What is served here is the sort of meal that would be served in countless homes in St Etienne: rabbit chopped up by an eager axeman and cooked in wine, tomato, little onion, no garlic, an outstanding sauté of beef with courgettes and peppers; a variation on croque-monsieur, of Gruyère, ham and mushroom in a puff pastry envelope; a simple kebap of chicken chunks marinated in honey and cider; a gobletful of runny chocolate mousse.

The cheeses have nothing to do with St Etienne except that they include Bleu d'Auvergne and are stingily portioned — the Auvergnat is traditionally reputed to be France's meanest meat. £33-£40 for two.

Mirage, 156 Chiswick High Road, London W4 (01-995 1656). Open: Tues-Fri 12.30-2.30pm, Mon-Sat 7-11pm. Le Picotin, 4 Elliott Road, London W4 (01-995 2406). Open: Tues-Sun 7-10.45pm.

DRINK

Gin sling for a summer fling

One of the greatest disappointments in my drinking life was ordering a Singapore Sling at Raffles Hotel in Singapore.

Bad enough that the dilapidated interior no longer lived up to the old colonial days, even if the fan-tailed travellers palms and ornate white frontage did. But the real let-down came in the famous Long Bar where the Singapore Sling was invented. Instead of a delicious mixture, reminiscent of the Empire, what eventually turned up was a disgustingly sweet concoction gaudily garnished with a piece of purple pineapple and an emerald-green swizzle stick.

A sling (principally a mixture of gin, soda water and sugar) is still one of the most summery tipples there is. The original and, in my opinion, most delicious version consists of two parts gin, one part cherry brandy and one part lemon juice poured into the bottom of a tall glass and topped up with soda water. Avoiding the extra shot of sugar syrup makes it a refreshingly dry and thirst-quenching drink.

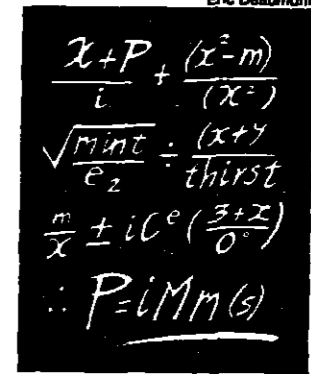
The most famous English version of the gin sling was that invented in the 1880s by James Pimm, a London restaurateur. His concoction blended with lemons and herbs is very different to that of a classic gin sling.

Today's 31.4 per cent alcohol version is, I think, expensive for what it is, costing roughly the same price per bottle as gin but at almost 10 per cent less alcohol. To my taste buds, at least, today's Pimm's gin-based No 1 Cup appears to be a blend of gin, herbs and not least a hefty slug of an orange-based liqueur. I make a passable, and inexpensive, imitation by adding one third of any French or Italian red vermouth to two thirds gin and then topping up with fizzy lemonade plus slices of orange and lemon and cucumber in the usual way.

Sprigs of mint and borage are an essential extra summer ingredient to this drink. And

by the time all the items have been combined together none of my guests has ever noticed the difference. With everyone's garden, window box or sill overflowing with herbs it is pleasant to re-route a few into your glass as well as the salad bowl. A champagne julep is a luxurious variation on an old theme.

Simply take two sprigs of fresh young mint and crush in the bottom of a tall glass with



a teaspoon of sugar, topping up with any good, dry sparkling wine such as G F Cavalier Brut or champagne if you are feeling indulgent. The only wine based mixture that I actively dislike is a champagne cocktail, made from brandy and champagne, that is death to its costly ingredients and to your system the following day.

Infinitely more pleasurable is a Kir Royale that also uses champagne as its base but which the French, and the Parisians in particular, tend to drown beneath an inch or more of crème de cassis.

My version consists of pouring the smallest teaspoon-like splash of crème de cassis, or blackcurrant liqueur, into the bottom of a glass and then topping up with champagne (or more usually a cheap, dry fizz such as G F Cavalier Brut priced around £2.59 from Oddbins or Majestic Wine Warehouses). The end result is then a pale bluish-pink rather than deep purple red and utterly delicious.

Jane MacQuitty

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Rock and jazz records

REVIEW

Hip hop given the Run around

Run D. M. C. Raising Hell London LONLP 21

Following the first UK Fresh Festival at Wembley Arena last month, hip hop/electro has achieved a new widespread recognition in Britain.

At its best, hip hop offers an invigorating patchwork of urban electronic street sounds pound together with the same implacable funk beat.

But what finally distinguishes hip hop from so many of the tired trends and threadbare constructions of modern rock is the vitality of the performances.

On its bold and brassy surface, there is not much to distinguish Jammin' Uptown from a thousand other competent hard-bop sessions in the jazz messengers' mould.

Blanchard's "Europa" and Hicks's "Mind Wine", the latter a rhythmically boppish but melodically rich line that is reminiscent of Benny Golson's writing.

Blanchard's replacement in the new Messengers is Wallace Roney, whose trumpet can be heard in What If?

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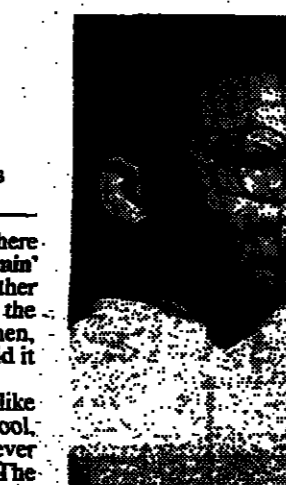
Leaders of the rap pack: Run D. M. C. - the most accomplished exponents of hip hop

take issue with their vanities. "Peter Piper" and "My Adidas" are minimalist celebrations of the funk beat with sprightly clonking percussion.

that appeared at the Wembley festival, due for "imminent" release, but judging by that company's ineptitude in meeting its release schedules it might be better for the impatient listener to seek out one or two of the best singles instead.

In many ways Sigue Sigue Sputnik draw on the same sources of modern techno-junk inspiration for their music and Flaunt II is littered with comical intercut snatches plundered from other soundtracks.

Messengers change but the melodies linger on



Blast from the recent past: targeted aggression from Terence Blanchard

The two saxophonists, Jean Toussaint (rain-cloud tenor) and Donald Harrison (green-apple alto), stretch out convincingly on Walter Davis's "Jodi" and Harrison's own "Mr Babe", two tunes whose unfamiliarity makes a pleasant contrast with the inclusion of two perhaps overworked Blakey classics.

Victor Lewis, an admirable young drummer with the panache of Philly Joe Jones, shines in a vigorous duet with the leader on Charlie Parker's "Dexterity", while another duet, this time between piano and Cecil McBee's purring bass, provides the album with its creative peak.

The aforementioned Jones is the sparkplug of three quintet tracks from 1959 in Wrinkles, wherein the Miles Davis rhythm section of the time, led by the pianist Wynton Kelly, meets the jazz messengers' front line: the ambitious partnership of Lee Morgan (trumpet) and Wayne Shorter (tenor saxophone).

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is a ballad with a certain gorgeous charm and "Massive Retaliation" has moody promise. The advertisements are great fun and it is an album that is always good for a smile.

Their only artistic mistake seems to have been a failure to confine their bragging to the grooves of the record, but once past the hype there is evidence of the makings of a good band on Flaunt II.

But for seekers of the genuinely new and bizarre Big Heart Live in Tokyo by the Lounge Lizards comes a lot closer to the mark.

The saxophonist and principal composer John Lurie has remarked on his passion for composing film scores, and the cracked aural vignettes on Big Heart veer neurotically between the subject matter of West Side Story and One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest.

Lurie's saxophone playing on "It Could Have Been Very Beautiful" conjures disturbed, lingering images and the humour borders on malevolent hysteria in "The Punch and Judy Tango".

Not all the current batch of Blue Note rediscoveries are of a matching standard, but the relaxed, easy-swinging ambience of Rollin' with Leo places it well above the rest of the limited output of Leo Parker, a pioneering bebop baritone saxophonist who died a few months after this 1961 sextet session.

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ON THE AIR

Passions from the outback

TELEVISION



Tender touch: Calhern and Monroe in The Asphalt Jungle

Darkness falls in a dangerous city

FILMS ON TV

"If you want fresh air, don't look for it in this town." That line, spoken by one of the crooks in The Asphalt Jungle, John Huston's tough adaptation of W.R. Burnett's novel, could well stand as the summation of all that is central to film noir.

It was the French critics after the Second World War who first spotted the pervasive dark look to many of the films to emerge from Hollywood between 1941 and 1950.

Dark alleys, rainwashed streets, and low-key lighting were all part of the surface of these films, initiated by Huston's famous The Maltese Falcon. But much more important was the notion that no matter where the setting was, the film belonged as much to "the sad and dangerous city of the imagination" as to the actual location.

The plot of The Asphalt Jungle (BBC2, tomorrow, 9.55-11.50pm) is routine stuff for this kind of thriller. A jewel robbery is masterminded by Doc Riedenschneider (Sam Jaffe) with the help of Dix (Sterling Hayden) and a corrupt lawyer (Louis Calhern), whose secretary is touchingly played by Marilyn Monroe.

None of Huston's later films exhibits such a smooth and uncluttered style as The Asphalt Jungle. Louis B. Mayer, whose studio made the film, said that it was full of nasty people, and that he wouldn't cross the room to see it. Now that it is on TV, you don't even have to cross the room.

Chris Peachment Escape From Alcatraz (1979): Clint Eastwood tunnels out of Alcatraz using the warden's nail-clippers; a low-key, tense tribute to human endurance in adversity (ITV, today, 9.15-11.20pm).

Topkapi (1964): Jules Dassin's lightfooted caper with Melina Mercouri and Peter Ustinov trying to steal the Istanbul jewel, Robert Morley plays the part of an eccentric inventor (BBC1, tomorrow, 7.15-9.10pm).

John Evans is a survivor. He went down a Welsh pit at the age of 12, was forcibly retired from the coal face at 73 by nationalisation and now, at 108, retains all his mental faculties. Displayed in the fall in an affectionate profile, John Evans at 108 Years (BBC2, tomorrow, 8.10-8.40pm).

Timothy West, can be heard in Free (Radio 4, Mon. 8.15-9.45pm), a play by Nick Dear. West plays an industrialist who is kidnapped, then released for a ransom. But as he tries to reassemble his life he finds his troubles have only just begun.

Kidnapping - and worse - was once very much in the line of Billy and Seamus (Radio 4, Fri. 8.20-8.45pm). Billy was a member of the Ulster Volunteer Force and served 10 years for murder, and Seamus was an IRA terrorist who was almost killed in an SAS ambush and subsequently served seven years.

Now both men have broken with their pasts and condemn the organizations to which they belonged. They will be talking openly about their crimes, their prison experiences and their attempts to make a new life.

Also on Friday night, Chekhov in Siberia (Radio 3, 9.15-10.30pm) tells of the doctor-playwright's journey to the penal colony of Sakhalin to observe conditions there. Devised and performed by Michael Pennington, the programme uses Chekhov's own words, culled from letters, articles and conversations.

This afternoon, Earthquake UK (Radio 4, 4-4.45pm) is a history of the British earthquake - of which there have been a surprising number. David Addis asked some uncomfortable questions - could we ever have a really major earthquake? And if we did, what would happen to our nuclear power stations?

RECOMMENDED

A King in New York (1957): Chaplin's penultimate film, an ambivalent satire against the country which had spurned him in the late 1940s (BBC2, today, 1.55-3.40pm).

The Man From Laramie (1955): Last of the James Stewart/Anthony Mann Westerns, with Stewart seeking revenge on his brother's killers. Great scenery (BBC2, today, 9-10.40pm).

Richard Williams fident trumpet and Booker Ervin's acridulous Texan tenor made a front line every bit as identifiable as Morgan and Shorter, and their more fleeting collaboration can be savoured in Happy Frame of Mind, a 1963 sextet recording by the pianist Horace Parlan, now available for the first time in its original form.

Chiefly known for his work with Charles Mingus in the early 1960s, Parlan also had a personal perspective on the blues. His gospel-driven phrases find a ready response in Grant Green's clean-lined guitar solos, propelled by the splendid tenor of Butch Warren (bass) and Billy Higgins (drums). "Dexi", a mode-based tune by Coles in the style of Davis's "Milestones" and "So What", has the sound of a minor classic.

Not all the current batch of Blue Note rediscoveries are of a matching standard, but the relaxed, easy-swinging ambience of Rollin' with Leo places it well above the rest of the limited output of Leo Parker, a pioneering bebop baritone saxophonist who died a few months after this 1961 sextet session.

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Advertisement for Jean Michel Jarre's album 'Rendezvous' featuring 'As featured in the last Sunday's BBC 2 & Radio 1 programmes' and 'Renowned producer and arranger HOLSTON'.

Chess section titled 'Vice and virtue' by Raymond Keene, discussing a game between Kasparov and Karpov.

Bridge section titled 'The switch hitch' by Jeremy Flint, discussing a hand from a recent tournament.

Concise crossword puzzle section titled 'CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1030' with clues and a grid.

THE WEEK AHEAD



FILMS

LATE POST: Luchino Visconti made his debut as a director with Ossessione (PG), an Italian version of James M. Cain's The Postman Always Rings Twice, in 1942. But only now is the film getting a British commercial showing. Renair (01-837 8402), from Friday.



GALLERIES

BOTTOMS UP: Donald McGill, uncrowned king of the saucy postcard, is among the artists represented in The End of the Pier Show, a summer exhibition of popular seaside art. It is on at the City Art Gallery, Manchester (061 236 9422), from today.



BOOKS

GIRL FRIEND: Anita Brookner, in her new novel, A Misalliance (Jonathan Cape, £9.95), focuses on a woman whose husband leaves her after 20 years of marriage. She fills her time establishing contact with a little girl and getting involved with the family's problems.



TELEVISION

TO THE DUCHY BORN: The Prince of Wales derives his income from the 130,000-acre estate belonging to the Duchy of Cornwall and he takes his role as estate manager very seriously, as Jenni Murray discovers in The Duchy of Cornwall (BBC1, Tues, 9.30-10.20pm).



THEATRE

PASSION PLAY: Nuria Espert, Spain's leading actress, brings to the Edinburgh Festival her famous portrayal of the childless heroine of Yerma, the play by Lorca who died 50 years ago during the Spanish Civil War. Royal Lyceum Theatre (031 225 5756), from Monday.



CONCERTS

SPAIN SONG: Montserrat Caballé, the Spanish soprano, forsakes the opera house for the concert platform to make her Edinburgh Festival debut in a recital of songs by Vivaldi, Granados, Rossini, Vives and Turina. Usher Hall (031 225 5756), from Friday.

TIMES CHOICE

DANCE

WARSAW BALLET: Making its British debut on Mon at the Edinburgh Festival dancing The Sleeping Beauty, staged by the Russian ballet-master Piotr Gusev. Playhouse, Edinburgh (031 225 5756).

BOLSHOI BALLET: Its Manchester season ends today; from Mon it will be in Birmingham, where The Golden Age plays alternate nights with a programme of short works and gala highlights. Palace, Manchester (061 236 9922), Birmingham Hippodrome (021 622 7466).

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: Opens a three-week season at Cambridge with a run of The Sleeping Beauty (Tues, Aug 23) starring different dancers every night. The Big Top, Jesus Green, Cambridge (advance booking 0223 68848).

LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET: Ends its London season with two performances today of Coppelia. Festival Hall (01-928 3191).

THEATRE

IN PREVIEW

MARLOWE: New play by Leo Rost, with music by Jimmy



Horowitz. Steve Harley (above) as Christopher Marlowe. King's Head, 115 Upper Street, London N1 (01-226 1916). Previews from Tues. Opens Aug 25.

OURSELVES ALONE: Third London presentation for Anne Devlin's award-winning study of three women of Northern Ireland today. Cast includes Sylvester Le Touzel, Fiona Victory, Michael Feast, Maeliosa Stafford. Royal Court (01-730 1745). Previews from Thurs. Opens Aug 27.

OPENINGS

BORN IN THE U.S.A.: Market Theatre of Johannesburg in a show devised by the company with director Barney Simon, about life for seven individuals of different races after a State of Emergency is declared in the Republic of South Africa. As seen at the Edinburgh Festival and en route for New York. Tricycle (01-328 8626). Previews Tues. Opens Wed.

MARTI CAINE: West End debut of the comedienne/actress/singer in a one-woman cabaret, for three performances. Donmar Warehouse (01-240 8230). Fri, Aug 23, 24.

NIGHTSHRIEK: New musical commissioned for the company opens the National Youth Theatre summer season. Shaw (01-388 1394). Previews today, Mon. Opens Tues.

SELECTED

I'M NOT RAPPAPORTA: A rare chance to see Paul Scofield as a geriatric prankster in Herb Gardner's soft-edged park-bench whimsy. Apollo (01-437 2663).

LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT: Jonathan Miller's quirky production of O'Neill's doomy masterpiece. Haymarket (01-930 9832).

OUT OF TOWN

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: Highlights include Blood Wedding; Compañía de Jose Luis Gomez, in one of Lorca's great tragedies (Royal Lyceum Theatre); Takeda Marionette Theatre; Japanese company, founded in 1660, using string marionette and trick mechanical puppets. (Church Hill Theatre). Reservations on 031 225 5756. Festival Fringes Shows opening this week include

CONCERTS

ABBADO/COE: The Chamber Orchestra of Europe is conducted by Claudio Abbado in Wagner's Siegfried Idyll, Brahms's Serenade No. 1 and Andras Schiff solos in Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 9. Royal Albert Hall, London SW7 (01-589 8212). Today, 7.30pm.

MOSCOW VIRTUOSOS: Vladimir Spivakov directs the Moscow Virtuosi in Mozart's Eine Kleine Nachtmusik and solos in Bach's A minor Violin Concerto and Vivaldi's The Seasons. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191). Credit cards 01-928 8800. Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

LONDON SINFONETTA: A programme including Weill's Berliner Requiem and Happy End, Webern's Pieces Op 10, Bartok's Contrasts. Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SE1 (01-928 3191). Credit cards 01-928 8800. Mon, 7.45pm.

PROM 35: Haydn's Symphony No 100 "Military" Schumann's Cello Concerto (Ralph Krushbaum, soloist) and Strauss's Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme played by the English Chamber Orchestra under Jeffrey Tate in the 35th Prom of the season. Royal Albert Hall, Tues, 7.30pm.

PETER DICKINSON: Howard Shelley solos in Peter Dickinson's Piano Concerto with the BBC SO under David Atherton. Royal Albert Hall, Wed, 7.30pm.

ANNIE-SOPHIE MUTTER: Solos in Dvorak's Violin Concerto with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, with Liadov's Kláimora, Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 5. Yuri Temirkanov conducts. Royal Albert Hall, Thurs, 7.30pm.

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: The week is dominated by the Maly Theatre of Leningrad, making their first visit to the UK. They bring with Tchaikovsky's Queen of Spades on Mon and Aug 23, Eugene Onegin on Wed and Aug 24. In between, a rarity by the contemporary Russian composer, Sergei Stokimsky: Maria Stuart, playing on Fri and Aug 25. All performances start at 7.15pm. King's Theatre (031 225 5756).

ROCK AND JAZZ

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA: Subscription booking open for autumn season at Cardiff, Birmingham, Liverpool and Bristol, with performances of The Ring, Lucia di Lammermoor, The Magic Flute and Un Sello in Maschera. Single booking from Sept. Welsh National Opera, John Street, Cardiff (0222 464666).

CENTRAL BALLET OF CHINA: British debut by leading classical ballet ensemble of China, with programme reflecting English and Russian traditions plus three Chinese ballets. Oct 2-18. Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 8519).

JAPANESE FESTIVAL: A "Festival of the Air", with mass kite flying by professional Japanese kite makers; the Himawari Theatre Group from Tokyo, Japanese violinist Mayumi Fujikawa, concert recitals with Japanese instruments; film on the Japan garden, tea ceremony, origami and the martial arts, plus dance, workshops and exhibitions. Sept 14-Oct 18. Festival Office, Washington Arts Centre, Fifehead, District 7, Washington, Tynes and Wear (081 416 6440).

ANNETTE PEACOCK: Songs of strange enchantment from pop to outer limits. Tomorrow, Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Firth Street, London W1 (01-439 0747).

SUMMERSCOPE JAZZ: An attractive mini-festival with Stan Tracey (Mon), Gail Thompson (Tues), Courtney Pine (Wed), Tim Whitehead and Ian Ballamy (Thurs) and Mike Westbrook's trio (Fri). From Mon, Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191).

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CONCERTS

KING KONG (PG): The world's most famous monster returns to poster Fay Wray and New York City; first released in 1933. Cannon Premiere (01-439 4470).

SOUTH BANK OPERA: Harrison Birtwistle's new opera, Yan Tan Tethera, a story of ancient shepherds and their battle with the forces of good and evil, plays on Tues and Aug 23 at 7.45pm, conducted by Elgar Howarth as part of the South Bank's first operetta season presented by Opera Factory London Sinfonietta. A new production of Così fan tutte, by Opera Factory's director, David Freeman, plays tomorrow, Wed and Fri at 7pm. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191).

PROM OPERA: Glyndebourne's new production of Simon Boccanegra comes London tomorrow. Bernard Haitink conducts the performance which begins at 7pm. Albert Hall, London SW1 (01-589 8212 or Ticketmaster 01-379 6433).

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: The week is dominated by the Maly Theatre of Leningrad, making their first visit to the UK. They bring with Tchaikovsky's Queen of Spades on Mon and Aug 23, Eugene Onegin on Wed and Aug 24. In between, a rarity by the contemporary Russian composer, Sergei Stokimsky: Maria Stuart, playing on Fri and Aug 25. All performances start at 7.15pm. King's Theatre (031 225 5756).

ROCK AND JAZZ

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CONCERTS

ABBADO/COE: The Chamber Orchestra of Europe is conducted by Claudio Abbado in Wagner's Siegfried Idyll, Brahms's Serenade No. 1 and Andras Schiff solos in Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 9. Royal Albert Hall, London SW7 (01-589 8212). Today, 7.30pm.

MOSCOW VIRTUOSOS: Vladimir Spivakov directs the Moscow Virtuosi in Mozart's Eine Kleine Nachtmusik and solos in Bach's A minor Violin Concerto and Vivaldi's The Seasons. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191). Credit cards 01-928 8800. Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

LONDON SINFONETTA: A programme including Weill's Berliner Requiem and Happy End, Webern's Pieces Op 10, Bartok's Contrasts. Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SE1 (01-928 3191). Credit cards 01-928 8800. Mon, 7.45pm.

PROM 35: Haydn's Symphony No 100 "Military" Schumann's Cello Concerto (Ralph Krushbaum, soloist) and Strauss's Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme played by the English Chamber Orchestra under Jeffrey Tate in the 35th Prom of the season. Royal Albert Hall, Tues, 7.30pm.

PETER DICKINSON: Howard Shelley solos in Peter Dickinson's Piano Concerto with the BBC SO under David Atherton. Royal Albert Hall, Wed, 7.30pm.

ANNIE-SOPHIE MUTTER: Solos in Dvorak's Violin Concerto with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, with Liadov's Kláimora, Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 5. Yuri Temirkanov conducts. Royal Albert Hall, Thurs, 7.30pm.

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Aiming high and still on target



It seemed a curious ambition for a successful and busy actress, but Gayle Hunnicut's enthusiasm never appeared to waver. "I'm so excited about going to Watford", she said. "It's really thrilling."

There are problems interviewing members of the theatrical profession. Credibility is often an early casualty, as even the most trusting soul soon suspects that the limpid-eyed sincerities about "art" and "commitment" so eloquently delivered from exquisitely formed and expertly made-up lips are really only a camouflage for the real message which is: buy a ticket for my latest film, sucker.

There was a knock on the door of her Regent's Park home. Perhaps symbolically, or perhaps not, it was the bi-annual delivery of delicately festering North London, mature which, for £16, is spread over the tastefully planted vegetation of her small garden. "You see", she said, giggling intelligently, "the sort of juggling act one has to perform between one's professional life and being a housewife."

It is true that Mrs Jenkins — to use her housewife name — co-stars in a film directed by Arthur Penn to be released next Friday. It is called Target and I merely report that she very prettily says goodbye to her husband (Gene Hackman) and son (Matt Dillon) at Dallas-Fort Worth airport in the first few minutes and is not seen again until the final frames when she is released from a barn in East Germany where she has been trussed, gagged and wired to enough explosive to satisfy the lust of the most ambitious pyromaniac or, as in the film, dastardly caricature Nazi.

Under these circumstances, it is possible to appreciate the attractions of Watford. By coincidence, the incendiary motif of her art is now extended, in a more frivolous way, to the Greenwich Theatre where, until next Saturday she is acting as a southern belle in The Miss Firecracker Contest, a comedy by Pulitzer prize-winning playwright Beth Henley. "It's about the myth of the American dream and the idea that if

Plays, films, books, radio, TV — for Gayle Hunnicut work is the key to staying young

you win contests and are number one, you're going to be happy. I play a former beauty queen who has done it all — and I'm not happy."

And so to Watford, where next month she starts rehearsing a completely different part — a reclusive poetess who wears jeans and rides a motorbike in So Long on Lonely Street, a play by Sandra Deer, who runs an experimental theatre in Atlanta.

Last week Gayle could also be heard reading the serial on Woman's Hour. She is a voraciously hard and versatile worker who appears not only in films and on television (she will be on the small screen again next Thursday and Friday, in Strong Medicine, an adaptation of an Arthur Hailey novel) but in stage roles as diverse as Peter Pan and Hedda Gabler. She has also given poetry readings at the D. H. Lawrence Festival in Santa Fe, New Mexico, written a book (Health and Beauty in Motherhood), and is contemplating another on being an actress.

Why be so profigate? Her large eyes opened even wider, and she shook her long auburn hair. At the age of 42, she knows she looks good and could pass for a woman at least 10 years younger. Instinctively, I assumed I was about to be lectured about the life-enhancing qualities of earning a buck as a mummer.

There was a bit of that, as if it were expected, but the direct answer was refreshing. "Because I'm asked", she said. "One's instinct as an actor is 'Let's go for it', because you never know when you'll work again."

She was born in Texas, the only child of an American army officer, and she moved to England nearly 20 years ago during her first marriage to actor David Hemmings. They

have a son, Nolan, now 15 and a promising actor himself who stars as David Copperfield in a BBC series to be shown in the autumn. She has a second son, four-year-old Edward, by her marriage to the journalist Simon Jenkins.

"I love and need family life, and there is a stability in this country which satisfies the side of me that wants to be a wife and mother. I'm not sure I'd find that in America. It's lethally competitive."

"One of the great joys here is that I can work at so many things. The money isn't too hot at Greenwich or Watford, but not once did my agent murmur. 'Well, darling, maybe we should find you something else'. In America, you're only as good as your last film. Here you are judged on the body of your work and if you do a play that doesn't quite come off, people say 'That was interesting. Good try'."

"I'd feel claustrophobic if I didn't act. There were moments of difficulty when I've thought, 'This is ridiculous', but then the telephone rings with an interesting offer and you can't wait to get to rehearsal. Every time it's like a whole new life beginning. Acting is a tremendous adventure. You're always grappling with another aspect of life's struggle and broadening your own horizons."

"It's also nice to be financially independent. I'd find it very difficult if for some reason I was unable to support myself. My aunt always told me there are two types of people — lifters and leaners. I'm a lifter, which is quite healthy."

There was another knock on the door. The manure had been successfully spread. She laughed as she searched for her purse. "You see, I pay for it. I don't have to ask anyone if I can buy manure. That's one of the high points in life."

She has a sense of humour as well.

Andrew Duncan

Target (15) is at the Leicester Square Theatre. (01-630 5252) from Fri. Strong Medicine is on ITV on Thurs (9-9.30pm) and Fri (7.30-9.30pm).

ARTS DIARY

First folio for Fergie

Those who have been more than a little curious to discover exactly what it is that the Duchess of York does in publishing will have a chance to find out later this year — but at a price.

A stately tome on the Palace of Westminster, penned by former Tory MP Sir Robert Cook, will be published just before Christmas through Fergie's employers, Richard Burton SA of Geneva. It will cost about £25 and will be the definitive guide and history book. "It's all her project — she conceived it, has done all the co-ordination, and has been on the front line in London handling everything", says a company spokesman. So will publishing be graced by more Fergie folios in the future? "Well, we want it and she wants it — but inshallah", was Burton's oblique reply.

Pump chorus

An unlikely bunch of musicians are about to become my neighbours here in Dockland. Far from hanging out in Trafalgar Square as their life suggests, the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Field have been living in a north London suburb. But now they are acquiring a magnificent Grade II listed hydraulic pumping station which they will turn into a rehearsal room and recording studio over the next two years. Costs veer between £2 million (the architects' estimate) and £5 million (Sir Neville Marriner's reckoning) but why worry? Apart from being an extremely hardworking orchestra, the Academy have a nice little earner from the soundtrack of the film Amadeus.

Let's hope there is a doctor in the house for the Jamaican National Dance Theatre Company's final performance at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, tonight. The finale will be Kumena, a dance version of an occult ritual worship of ancestors: Rex Nettleford, who dances the lead, tells me: "There's always an element of being possessed in this dance, and dancers have had to be taken off for treatment. On one last night, anything could happen..."

Callow move

Actor Simon Callow makes his directing debut in the autumn with Jean Cocteau's play La Machine Infernale, a comedy which turns to tragedy and which is based on the

Smith and Callow

story of Oedipus; Maggie Smith will play Jocasta and the production will start at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, before a West End transfer.

Dag drag

Musicalist Robert Layton tells me the joke is getting out of hand. During the compilation of the 20-volume Grove Dictionary of Music he wrote a spoof entry on a non-existent Scandinavian composer Dag Henrik Estrum-Hellerup. The joke was only discovered after several thousand copies had been printed and Layton is only just back on speaking terms with the Grove editor, Stanley Sadie. Now he has discovered that not only have the Royal Library in Copenhagen been energetically trying to trace Estrum-Hellerup but a choral society has been founded to venerate his memory (had he existed he would have died in 1898). Says Layton: "I rather wish I would all go away."

Christopher Wilson

Handwritten signature







SATURDAY AUGUST 16 1986

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1271.0 (+7.8) FT-SE 100 1601.9 (+13.7) Bargains 20598 USM (Datastream) 123.96 (+1.71)

THE POUND

US Dollar 1.4945 (+0.0020) W German mark 3.0802 (+0.0034) Trade-weighted 71.7 (+0.3)

£84m bid extended

Meggitt Holdings has extended its £84 million bid for Bestobell until 3pm on August 29. By the first closing date on Thursday it had received acceptances from holders of 44.2 per cent of Bestobell's shares.

The acceptances include an irrevocable undertaking from BTR which holds 29.9 per cent of Bestobell.

Meggitt is offering four shares for one in Bestobell. With Meggitt's shares at 133p, this values each Bestobell share at 532p. There is a cash alternative of 500p a share.

Yesterday Bestobell's shares jumped from 499p to 514p on the news.

Japanese to lift economy

Tokyo (AP-Dow Jones) - The Japanese prime minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, is expected to unveil an economic package next month to stimulate the country's sluggish economy.

The measures are expected to include a large supplemental budget, and an increase in spending for public works.

BET offer

BET has made an £800,000 offer for the remaining 31.5 per cent in Electrical Press, one of its publishing subsidiaries. It is worth £24 in cash or 6.25 BET ordinary shares. The move is part of the company's overall strategy to acquire outstanding minority holdings. BET intends to merge Electrical Press with its main publishing subsidiary, Argus Press.

Bids cleared

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will not refer to the Monopolies Commission takeovers by Royal Trustco of the remaining 28 per cent in Arbutnot Savory Millin Holdings, and by Nord-Banken of Arbutnot Latham Bank.

Bond bid

The Australian entrepreneur, Mr Alan Bond, chairman of Bond Corporation, is using his family company, Dalhousie Investments, to bid 90 cents a share for Metals Exploration and 75 cents a share for Mid-East Minerals.

BT launch

British Telecom has launched a 10-year £250 million (£167 million) Eurobond issue at a coupon of 7 7/8 per cent to eliminate currency exposure. It is to redeem £250 million of its £750 million preference shares.

Table with 2 columns: Market, Price. Includes Commest, Tempus, Nikkei Dow, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

Table with 2 columns: Market, Price. Includes New York, Dow Jones, Nikkei Dow, etc.

INTEREST RATES

Table with 2 columns: Rate, Value. Includes London, Bank Base, 3-month interbank, etc.

CURRENCIES

Table with 2 columns: Currency, Price. Includes London, New York, etc.

NORTH SEA OIL

Table with 2 columns: Oil Type, Price. Includes Brent, North Sea, etc.

ICI buys \$580m paint group from Hanson

By Richard Lander

Imperial Chemical Industries became the world's biggest paint manufacturer yesterday when it acquired Glidden this year when it took over SCM Corporation.

The ICI chairman-elect, Mr Denys Henderson, said his company had registered its interest in Glidden when Hanson bought SCM. Other companies had been interested, but ICI was involved in one-to-one negotiations at the end.

Glidden, based in Ohio, had sales of more than \$650 million and reported pre-tax profits of more than \$60 million in the year ended in June.

About two-thirds of its sales are in the US decorative paint market and it is the American leader in do-it-yourself paints. It is also the domestic leader

in powder paints and coatings. Mr Henderson said about 80 per cent of Glidden's sales were in paint areas on which ICI wanted to concentrate.

The acquisition extends ICI's twin aims of increasing exposure to the United States and earning more of its profits from consumer and speciality products.

The American proportion of ICI's turnover, which will now exceed \$3 billion, will rise from about 19 per cent to 22 per cent of global sales, while the consumer and speciality division will account for about 29 per cent of the total turnover.

Yesterday's deal also considerably shifts the geographical balance within ICI's paint division. Previously, only 12 per cent of total turnover was in North America, all of which came from sales in Canada. North America will now account for almost half of global paint sales.

The acquisition of Glidden

further concentrates ownership in the global paint industry, which is dominated by ICI, BASF of West Germany and PPG of America.

ICI and Glidden will together have sales of more than 700 million litres of paint a year, against 400 million to 450 million for its two largest rivals.

The deal was negotiated in New York by ICI's acquisition team with Sir Gordon White, the chairman of Hanson Industries. The team, which was set up in October 1984, last year landed Beatrice Chemicals for ICI for \$750 million.

The money for the Glidden purchase will come from new borrowings. However, the group treasurer, Mr Archie Donaldson, said the gearing ratio, which will rise about 6 percentage points, would still be comfortably under 30 per cent.

He said the deal would still not trouble the existing borrowing requirements, which ICI is seeking to raise substantially.



Denys Henderson: aiming for US sales

Mayhew stands firm on TSB flotation

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

An explanation of the Government's position has been put forward for the first time since a ruling by Lord Templeman, a Law Lord, threatened to upset the planned TSB flotation next month. Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Solicitor-General, has tried to clear up the confusion surrounding the sale of the Trustee Savings Bank by explaining the Treasury's distinction between the State and the Government as possible owners.

Two weeks ago Lord Templeman argued that the TSB had belonged to the State, contradicting the Government's view that no one owned the bank.

The ruling gave rise to complaints that by not taking any of the £1 billion-plus proceeds from the TSB flotation next month, the Treasury was giving away assets which it actually owned.

There were calls to delay the flotation until the issue had been resolved. The Treasury, however, argued that the State and the Government were separate entities and that the Government had never owned the bank.

In a letter to Mr John Morris, Shadow Attorney-General, Sir Patrick argues that the 1976 and 1981 TSB Acts specify that the bank's assets are not Government property.

In a key passage he says: "It is commonplace to draw a distinction between the Crown or Government on the one hand and the State on the other. The Crown is used to describe a body which has legal personality, and the ability to hold property; the State on the other hand, is used to refer to a broader concept, which lacks legal personality."

Assets could be said to belong to the State in the sense that they were ultimately at Parliament's disposal. By means of the TSB Act 1985, says Sir Patrick, Parliament abolished the separate TSBs and the central board and disposed of their assets. "The assets of the TSBs can therefore apply be described, in the language of Lord Templeman, as having belonged to the State."

The letter argues that it does not follow from this that the TSB's surplus assets should accrue to the Exchequer. The taxpayer had never contributed to the bank. "On the abolition of the TSBs and the Central Board there would be no legal personality entitled to their assets and Parliament was entirely free to dispose of them as it thought fit."

Mr Morris led the Labour attack on the flotation by claiming earlier this week that the TSB Act 1985, which lays the foundation for the bank's flotation, was passed on false pretences. He claimed that Lord Templeman's ruling completely undermined the basis of the Act - that the bank had no owners. The Government, however, said that it would press ahead with the flotation regardless of Lord Templeman's ruling.

The TSB flotation had already been delayed from February by legal action by depositors who claimed that they owned the bank. The Law Lords ruled that the depositors were only entitled to their deposits and interest.

The Government is keen to press ahead with the flotation to get it out of the way before the privatization of British Gas in October. It hopes to attract over one million private investors to buy TSB shares as part of its plan to promote wider share ownership in Britain.

Guinness to press on with lawsuit

By Cliff Feltham

Guinness, the drinks group, is to press on with a \$200 million (£134 million) lawsuit against Mr James Gulliver's Argyle Group, issued at the height of the bitter takeover battle for control of Distillers.

Argyle, the Presto supermarket chain, whose costs involved in launching the failed bid have totalled £34 million, says in its report and accounts, published yesterday that it will fight the action, which arises out of advertisements it used depicting Arthur Bell's Scotch whisky, owned by Guinness.

Wellington Importers, the United States distributors of Arthur Bell, is claiming damages for misuse of trade mark and trade label.

Argyle said: "The company has sought legal advice in the US and believes that the claims are without merit. It will resist the claims with the utmost vigour, including seeking their early dismissal."

A Guinness spokesman said that there were no plans to drop the action, even though the takeover battle was over.

"We shall be pressing on," he said. During the acrimonious battle both Argyle and Guinness used hard-hitting advertising campaigns, which led to a ban on "knocking copy" by the Takeover Panel.

Meanwhile, Mr Gulliver, the Argyle chairman, confirmed his intention to expand in the United States if he can find a suitable food business.

He said his goal remained: "The creation of a broadly based international food and drink group."

He added: "Distillers would have established us strongly in the international drinks market and we will continue to seek branded acquisition opportunities in this market. However, these are limited in number and we are reluctant as always to pay more than a fair value."

Mr Gulliver, who said that the present year had started well, sold 1 million of his shares in Argyle last year and 253,000 since the year end. He still owns nearly 4 million shares. On the stock market, Argyle shares rose 7p to 318p.

UK agency to expand advertising base in US

By Teresa Poole

Wight Collins Rutherford Scott, the advertising agency, yesterday announced further ambitious expansion plans, enabling it to strengthen its position in the American market.

An agreement in principle has been reached to acquire Delta Fama Travisano, an American agency operating in New York and on the West Coast.

The move comes just two months after WCRS made its first American acquisition - the £33 million purchase of HBM Creamer - giving the company total American billings of around \$650 million (£433 million) a year.

DFT is expected to have billings of \$200 million (£133 million) in 1986. Its clients include Dow Chemical, Ralston Purina, Chemical Bank, Colistreat, Transamerica and Isaza Motors.

Mr Peter Scott, chief executive at WCRS, said that the company will make a good geographical fit with HBM, which is strongest in Boston and Pittsburgh. He added that the deal should be concluded within a matter of weeks, but would not indicate a price.

The HBM acquisition was financed by a £32 million rights issue so the new purchase will not prompt the issue of a large number of shares. Mr Scott warned yesterday that the level of debt would rise.

WCRS is the second largest British-owned marketing services group after Saatchi & Saatchi. Last year it made pre-tax profits of £2.6 million on turnover of £56 million. The shares gained 13p to 456p yesterday.

Oil price drop hits Tricentrol profits

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The fall in world oil prices has delivered the expected blow to the profits of Tricentrol, one of Britain's leading independent oil companies, which yesterday announced losses of £2.2 million in the first half of this year.

In the same period last year, Tricentrol made profits of £15.6 million, although it ended 1985 with profits of just under £25 million and trimmed its dividend by 50 per cent to 5p.

The interim dividend of 4p last year has been dropped this year. The losses had been widely expected, but the company's shares initially dropped 5p and later rallied to 55p, 3p down on the day.

Tricentrol yesterday echoed the other oil independents in blaming the profits drop on the depressed world oil market and the weaker dollar.

Although oil output from its North Sea holdings and from its share in the Wytch Farm offshore field in Dorset remained at similar levels to last year, turnover was 44 per cent lower than in the same period in 1985.

Tricentrol has already announced measures to reduce its heavy debt with a plan to dispose of 75 per cent of its American interests for £53 million and cut its borrowings to just over £90 million.

The deal, which is being put together by Dillon Read, the American investment bank, will allow Tricentrol management to concentrate on its British assets. It has 20 per cent stake in the Amethyst gas field, which has been on the market since January, is now more valuable to the company. In the long term, production increases are scheduled for Wytch Farm.

US tax plans are stalled

Washington (AP-Dow Jones) - The Senate finance committee chairman, Mr Bob Packwood, said the US tax overhaul effort had stalled.

Mr Packwood told reporters that he did not write off the possibility of a breakthrough. But he and the Ways and Means chairman, Mr Dan Rostenkowski, had been told by joint tax committee staff that their compromise tax package would fall about \$17 billion (£11.4 billion) short.

Exchange losses push Inoco into deficit

Inoco, the oil company, made a pre-tax loss of £112,087 in the six months to June 30, despite an operating profit of £404,091 and a profit, before tax and exceptional items, of £11,422. The company was hit by exchange losses of £123,509. Turnover was £1.02 million.

Since the company acquired Neo Energy last November, at the time it obtained a listing on the London Stock Exchange, there are no comparable figures.

During the first half of 1985, world oil and gas prices collapsed. So, prices for oil and gas received from its US operations were reduced to about 40 per cent of their December levels.

Report could signal end of the road for cement cartel

By Alexandra Jackson

A comprehensive survey of the British cement industry which could jeopardize its price cartel will be completed soon, according to the management consultancy arm of Deloitte Haskins and Sells, the firm of accountants.

The report was commissioned this year by the Office of Fair Trading as part of its normal surveillance work on the industry.

The OFT's intentions are not clear at this stage, although there is increasing speculation that this is the preliminary to a referral to the Restrictive Practices Court.

A spokesman for the OFT felt there was no great significance in this inquiry. Nevertheless, the existence of a price agreement of this nature must be something of an embarrassment.

The cement manufacturers are almost unique in operating under an officially recognized price cartel. The formula for this common price agreement was worked out in the 1930s and has remained virtually unchanged ever since. In effect, it prevents members of the Cement Makers' Federation undercutting each other.

The cartel has been successfully defended twice: once in 1961 and again in early 1974. In both instances it was decided that the common price agreement was not against the public interest.

There are, however, periodic rumblings from big cement users, who say the high cost of the material in the UK is preventing them from being competitive and from maximizing their returns.

There is no obvious connection between the commissioning of this report and news that floating cement silos recently arrived in London and Liverpool are en route to Bristol and Southampton.

However, there appear to be those who believe there is money to be made from importing cement into the UK and that there are customers waiting to be served. One such is Libexim, a Greek-based cement trader, which is planning to import at least 300,000 tonnes a year, with the capacity for importing more.

One large cement user said he would rather deal with domestic producers but had to regain competitive. Another pointed out that quality and

reliability of supply were crucially important but then so were costs. A third, RMC Group, actually owns cement storage silos in Northern Ireland (an area admittedly outside common pricing agreement), but it has no plans to use them for imported material at present.

Since the early 1980s, a trickle of cement has been entering the UK. Fears of increased volumes have been cited as the reason for infrequent price increases.

Blue Circle has linked these new imports with the decision to reduce its fleet of drivers by 600. If imports exceeded 1 million tonnes (over 10 per cent of the market) then plant closures may hit the industry. A spokesman for British Coal said this would result in 500 redundancies in the coal industry.

Blue Circle Industries is largest producer of cement in the United Kingdom with about 57 per cent of the market. RTZ Cement, a subsidiary of Rio Tinto-Zinc, has a 24 per cent market share, while Rugby Portland is third with 19 per cent.

Advertisement for Gilts. Text: 'FREE GUIDE TO GILTS. GILTS NOW OFFER NEARLY THE HIGHEST REAL RETURN EVER - IT'S TIME TO BUY. Gilts still offer a return of nearly 10% a year - 7 1/2% higher than the current inflation rate! The recent rise in gilt yields represents an excellent new buying opportunity. Interest rates are still forecast to fall further - and remember as they fall, the CAPITAL VALUE OF GILTS INCREASES. Etna's new GILT-EDGED BOND offers one of the MOST COST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO INVEST IN GILTS. \*Initial 5% saving over most gilt funds. \* Huge cost savings over direct investment. \* Gilts are unconditionally guaranteed by the Government. \* NO CAPITAL GAINS TAX on profits from Gilts. \* Management by Phillips & Drew - voted top for gilt research by 'Institutional Investor' poll. \* Fund 13% better than the FT All Stocks Fixed Interest Index since its launch (26/2/86 - 5/8/86) - over 4 times more! \* Up to 10% a year withdrawal facility. LOCK INTO THE REAL RETURN OF GILTS NOW! Etna is the UK arm of the world's largest publicly quoted insurance group with assets equivalent to £38,000,000,000. Etna Life Insurance Company Ltd 401 St. John Street, London EC1V 4QE Reg No 1766220. Please complete and send the coupon in an envelope addressed to Etna Life Insurance Company Ltd FREEPOST London EC1V 1NA. Or phone our Customer Care Centre - dial 100 and ask the operator for FREEPHONE Etna. The Centre is open 8am to 8pm each weekday. Please send me my FREE Guide to Gilts and details of the Etna GILT-EDGED BOND to: Name: Address: Postcode: Name of usual Professional adviser: P.S. If you are self-employed or have no company pension, please tick the box so we can also send you details of Etna's new Gilt-Edged Pension Bond. The Gilt-Edged BOND logo.

WALL STREET

Early rise for shares

New York (Agencies) - Shares rose slightly in early trading yesterday as bond prices strengthened...

The Dow Jones industrial average rose by 1.09 to 1,846.00 on a volume of 18 million shares...

Table of stock prices for various companies including AMR, ASA, Allied Signal, etc.

Hong Kong prime rate cut by 1%

From Stephen Leather, Hong Kong

Hong Kong's prime interest rates were yesterday cut from 7.5 per cent to 6.5 per cent...

The Hong Kong Association of Banks simultaneously reduced its deposit rates by 0.75 per cent...

Mr Peter Wrangham, the Association's chairman, said increasing speculation in London and New York...

The news of the cut helped lift the Hang Seng Index 10 points to close at a record high of 1,935.76.

Options chief resigns

Mr David Steen said yesterday he had resigned as chairman of the Stock Exchange's traded options committee...

Mr Steen said he had wanted for some time to reduce his direct involvement in the development and administration of traded options.

He had not intended to stand for another term on the Stock Exchange Council and was therefore bound to retire next June.

He said yesterday: "Certain points that I put to the exchange have not been acted upon and I did not feel confident in continuing as chairman."

Stock market sources believe that Mr Steen, who has been deeply involved with the traded options committee for three years, was unhappy at the power going into the hands of Stock Exchange officials.

COMPANY NEWS

- MCKAY SECURITIES: Total dividend 5.5p (2.25p) for the year to March 31...
GARFUNKELS RESTAURANTS: Terms have been agreed for the acquisition of five sites...

CANADIAN PRICES

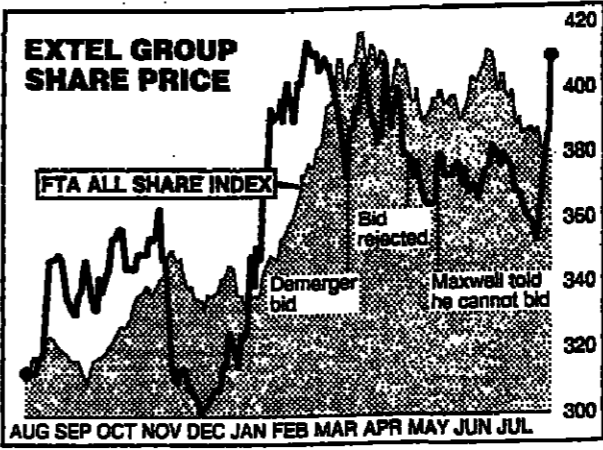
Table of Canadian stock prices for companies like Abitibi, Alcan, etc.

Huntleigh in bid talks

Huntleigh Technology, the medical equipment manufacturer, has approached Grosvenor Group to make an agreed bid for the electrical engineers...

Opportunity knocks at Extel

TEMPUS



Outside shareholders in Extel have good reason to be grateful to Mr Robert Maxwell. He has offered them the opportunity of making a small killing.

By buying an extra 4.2 million shares, taking his stake to 27 per cent, he has pushed the price up to 408p. Shareholders are in a particularly strong position to take advantage of this price as they have been offered the chance to buy shares at 330p in the proportion of one share for seven already held.

The offer to shareholders is one element in the arrangements for buying Dealers' Digest, for which Mr Maxwell thinks Extel is paying too much. To finance the deal, Extel is issuing 7.9 million shares...

In that event, applications, which must be made by August 26, would be returned to shareholders. The resolution to approve the purchase of Dealers' Digest needs the approval of a majority of those present and voting at the extraordinary meeting...

transactions must be made. Driven down to 17 1/2 US cents by political trauma, the financial rand is now trading at just above 20 cents.

Berry Trust

The battle for Berry Trust has polarized into a duel between two very large players, who speak for 50 per cent of the equity.

The GT Management-led concert party, which this week rode to Berry's rescue by snapping up most of United Kingdom Provident Institution's stake, now controls 27.4 per cent. To show it was not giving up, Ensign added a few more shares to its holding...

South African gold shares

Coming off the fence can be painful when one has been sitting on it for too long. For months the torpid bullion price enabled share analysts to hum and hah about South African gold mines by referring to the rather unexciting prospects for their product.

SAAB advertisement featuring a car and an airplane. Text includes 'A RANGE FOR THE UPWARDLY MOBILE' and 'SAAB THE AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURER - NOTHING ON EARTH COMES CLOSE'.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Dealers believe bid for Boots may soon be launched

By Michael Clark

There were some strange goings-on in the share price of beleaguered Boots yesterday with one broker prepared to pay over the odds in the market. This led to renewed speculation that a bid may be on the way.

By the close, Boots was showing a 1p rise on the day at 221p, but there were reports that Williams de Broe, the broker, was prepared to bid 225p for stock, amid speculation that Lord Hanson's Hanson Trust was again passing its slide rule over the group. This latest bout of bid fever was no doubt fuelled by the news that Hanson Trust had sold

property portfolio, but the shares are now trading close to their low for the year. The group has convened an extraordinary meeting to approve the Flint acquisition later this month.

The rest of the equity market enjoyed some sizeable gains, cheered by the prospect of lower interest rates worldwide shortly. There is talk that the US, Japan and West Germany will get together to lower interest rates which will increase the pressure for lower domestic interest rates.

The latest economic news, showing a further fall in the level of inflation, also encouraged investors. Inflation is now running at 2.4 per cent annually.

Gilts drew strength from the latest figures and the possibility of cheaper money, sporting gains of over 2%.

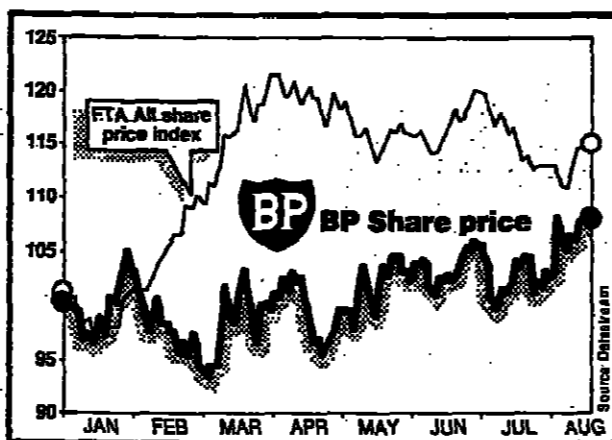
The FT index of 30 shares ended its first leg of the long, three-week account 7.8 points up at 1,271.0 and has almost recouped all of last week's 56-point fall. Its rise on the week is 53.6. The broader-based FT-SE 100 index closed 13.7 points higher at 1,601.9.

Chloride eased 2p to 51p after denying that it had received any approach.

Scottish & Newcastle, the brewer, was awash with market talk yesterday as the shares slipped 2p to 185p. Dealers claim that it may be ready to sell its 29.6 per cent stake in rival Matthew Brown and turn its attention to Courage, which Hanson Trust has put up for sale. A bid for someone like Greene King has also not been ruled out.

The SCM paint division for \$580 million (£38 million) to ICI. Hanson responded to the sale with a rise of 7p to 175p, while ICI breached the £10 level with a rise of 10p to £10.09.

Boots has been the target of much criticism this week following its decision to pay \$550 million for Flint Laboratories, a subsidiary of Baxter Travenol in the US. Some brokers claimed that Boots was paying over the odds and that the acquisition was a defensive move. Boots has often been tipped as a takeover target with its large



BP Share price and FT-SE All Share Index from January to August 1986.

Sears firmed 2p to 116.5p, despite details that it was planning to sell its Selfridges store. BP was able to extend Thursday's gain, but closed below its best levels of the day with a rise of 1p to 601p. This follows the successful sale of Guinness's stake, worth £108.3 million, which it inherited after its £2.5 billion acquisition of Distillers in April. The 18.8 million shares were bought by Salomon Brothers, the New York brokerage house, for 57p a share and were later placed by Salomon and Hoare Govett, the London broker, with various clients at 57.5p. Guinness received praise in some quarters for its decision

to hold on to the BP shares for an extra four months, earning it an extra £10 million as the price continued to rally. Back in April, the shares were trading at less than 550p. Guinness was unchanged at 328p.

Tricentral lost 3p at 55p following interim figures every bit as bad as feared. The group dove into the red with a pretax loss of £2.2 million against a profit for the same period last year of £15.6 million. The board has decided to pass the interim dividend, which last year stood at 4p.

Tricentral's results were another blow to the oil sector which has suffered a spate of bad results recently following the collapse in the price of crude oil on world markets this year. Earlier in the week, Ultramar announced second-quarter figures showing a net loss of £13.1 million compared with a profit last time of £20.7 million. The group was also forced to halve the dividend. But Ultramar improved by 8p to 136p yesterday after learning that IEP Securities, a subsidiary of Mr. Ron Brierley's New Zealand-based Industrial Equity, has been again building up its stake.

It now speaks for 35.2 million shares, or 12.8 per cent of the issued capital, raising hopes that he may eventually make a full bid. J Sainsbury, the supermarket chain, jumped 8p to 394p yesterday following a period of underperformance. James Capel, the broker, published a bullish circular earlier this week. Robert Fleming's marketmaking arm is now dealing in the shares and is also reckoned to be a fan of the company. Dealers claim that Sainsbury is due for a re-rating.

The rest of the oil sector spent an uncertain day. Dealers reported selective support for some of the leaders, but others were unnerved by the news from Tricentral and lost earlier small gains. Shell firmed 3p to 85p, Enterprise Oil 2p to 125p, London & Scottish Marine Oil 10p to 123p, Petrol 1p to 46p. But Britoil reverted to being unchanged at 123p, after 125p, as did Burnmah at 380p.

Among the brewers, Allied-Lyons advanced another 7p to 355p - making a gain on the week of 28p - still awaiting the outcome of the Monopolies Commission's inquiry into the bid from Elders IXL, the Australian brewer. The market appears to be already taking the view that Elders will be allowed to proceed.

Bass lost 7p at 755p, Matthew Brown 10p at 495p and Grand Metropolitan, the Truman and Watney Mann brewery, 5p at 778p. The big four clearing banks continued to enjoy more solid support and were clearly making the most of the hype surrounding the flotation of The Trustee Savings Bank next month. Barclays appears to have shrugged off all the effects of last week's disappointing interim figures, rising by 22p to 492p. Lloyds improved 13p to 432p, Midland 8p to 577p and National Westminster 8p to 522p.

Money indicators are in disarray, earnings are rising more than 7 per cent above the rate needed to maintain take-home pay and unit wage costs are increasing at a rate that will appear even more alarming once commodity prices turn up. That leaves the American-inspired drive for lower interest rates as the main hope for cutting rates here. Sterling

COMMENT Hanson Trust makes a handsome profit

Hanson Trust's sale of the SCM subsidiary Glidden Coatings to Imperial Chemical Industries looks like that rare animal, a good deal for both sides.

ICI has reinforced its position as a world leader in paints and Hanson has in one deal recouped more than 60 per cent of the purchase price of SCM, a price which now looks positively silly.

Hanson paid \$930 million cash for SCM, financed by dollar borrowings, and has recouped \$810 million through the sales of the head office and businesses including speciality chemicals, pulp, and now paint.

It is left with the rump of titanium dioxide, Smith-Corona typewriters, paper, food and some industrial businesses. The rump, however, makes annual pretax profits of around \$150 million, for which Hanson has effectively paid only \$120 million.

It is no small wonder that Hanson fought tooth and nail through the American courts and was prepared to take on the might of Merrill Lynch to win its prize. Merrill's controversial offer, featuring in the argot, a "crown jewel lock-up option", valued SCM at even less than Hanson's offer.

Hanson is keeping an open mind on the rest of SCM. It has demonstrated that as long as the price is right it will sell, whatever the business. That price has to offer a return higher than Hanson believes it could achieve through its own efforts.

ICI could offer that with Glidden, because it has the resources and the

people to invest in paint research and development. Hanson does not have those resources. Glidden will build on ICI's strengths, taking to more than \$1 billion the amount the group has spent on American acquisitions in the past 18 months.

Hanson is now contemplating a greatly reduced interest bill in America, providing flexibility to pursue "other opportunities". Whether there are more plums like SCM to be plucked remains for Hanson to reveal to the world. It has certainly shown up the competition on this one.

The question of whether it will be able to do the same with its British purchase, the Imperial Group, has still to be answered. The price paid appeared much fuller so the opportunities look more limited. The question also remains whether a break-up and wholesale disposal of Imperial's businesses, excluding tobacco and perhaps food, would be appreciated on this side of the Atlantic.

Chairman Lord Hanson denied any intention of a full break-up when he was pursuing his prey. A retreat from that position, even to accept irresistibly fancy prices, might cause more than a little hesitation when Hanson Trust inevitably comes to launch its next blockbuster bid.

However, if Lord Hanson can get the rumoured £95 million for Golden Wonder and the asked-for £1.5 billion for Courage, he will not hesitate for a second.

Seasonal help on inflation

It was always going to be hard to improve last month on the 2.5 per cent 12-month inflation rate recorded in June, simply because retail prices had actually fallen by 0.2 per cent in July last year, the month now going out of the reckoning. In the event, seasonal foods helped beat this performance and cut prices by 0.3 per cent. That was a pleasant surprise for Whitehall and City analysts alike, bringing the bonus of a further reduction in the annual inflation rate to 2.4 per cent. More dramatically, prices are now unchanged over three months, which begins to look internationally respectable.

Foreign exchange and money markets were not initially overimpressed by this good news, weighing it, no doubt, against the relentless rise in earnings and unit wage costs recorded again on Thursday. The summer was expected to record the trough of British inflation in the present cycle as the benefits of cheap oil flowed through. So what difference do a few bargain vegetables make? The oil companies have already tried to raise petrol prices at the pumps to make the inflation-fighter's life more difficult this month.

Money indicators are in disarray, earnings are rising more than 7 per cent above the rate needed to maintain take-home pay and unit wage costs are increasing at a rate that will appear even more alarming once commodity prices turn up. That leaves the American-inspired drive for lower interest rates as the main hope for cutting rates here. Sterling

strength on the foreign exchanges rate is the only safe trigger for further attempts to narrow the gap between British interest rates and those of our main competitors are enjoying.

A sustained return to more stable oil prices would certainly make things clearer. Barclays Bank, in its latest review, makes the encouraging forecast that base rates are likely to fall to 8.5 per cent in the next six months, mainly in response to further rate cuts abroad.

Political considerations are also looming ever closer. To the market, that means election prospects. To the Government, it means managing interest rates to make sure of a favourable climate for the November flotation of British Gas and no cuts that have to be undone later, feeding the wrong trends into the inflation figures next year.

The underlying inflation rate - excluding oil price effects and mortgage interest - is probably still about 4 per cent, although the actual retail price index inflation should not reach that level before next summer. Election or no, the earnings figures show that there is plenty of educating to do before industry thinks it is living in a post-inflation world. So the message coming from the Treasury remains: be cautious, but more base rate cuts in good time for November please.

Sir Thomas Risk is, of course, Governor of the Bank of Scotland, not the Bank of England, as inadvertently appeared yesterday.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent issues of various companies including Anglo Suez, Asahi, B&B Design, Beazer, Borden, British Telecom, etc.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing London financial futures for three months starting from Sep 85 to Dec 85, including US Treasury Bond, Dec 85, and FT-SE 100.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table showing foreign exchange rates for Sterling spot and forward rates, including New York, Hong Kong, and other international locations.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table listing traditional options for various companies like Allied Lyons, BP, and others, including call and put options.

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

Table showing money market and gold prices, including base rates, clearing banks, and various financial instruments.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table listing London traded options for various companies like Allied Lyons, BP, and others, including call and put options with series, date, and price.

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

Table showing money market and gold prices, including base rates, clearing banks, and various financial instruments.

Advertisement for Portfolio 30, a service for investors providing a high guaranteed monthly income from gilts. Includes contact information for Barlow Clowes & Partners Limited.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table of unit trusts with columns for name, price, change, and performance metrics. Includes sections for EQUITY UNIT TRUSTS, FIXED INCOME UNIT TRUSTS, and SPECIALIST UNIT TRUSTS.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities with columns for company name, price, change, and performance metrics.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for name, price, change, and performance metrics. Includes sections for LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE, LONDON MEAT FUTURES, LONDON POTATO FUTURES, LONDON GRAIN FUTURES, and LONDON LIVESTOCK.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, possibly a page number or reference.

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

COMMODITIES



EXTRA UNITS UP TO 31ST OCT

# A 30-YEAR INVESTMENT RECORD

Over the last thirty years you probably could not have held a unit trust with a better performance than M&G SECOND GENERAL.

£1,000 invested at its launch in June 1956 would now be worth £67,208 with all income reinvested, compared with £8,104 from a similar investment in a building society. To have maintained its purchasing power over the period, £1,000 would need to have grown to £8,748.

The British Stockmarket has been strong for a number of years, which is why many investors are now looking at overseas markets for new investment opportunities. But concentration in one particular area can produce very volatile investment results, and this year's high flier can often be next year's poor performer. You should be wary of short-term performance claims, such as the "Over 50% growth in just five months" quoted recently for a European unit trust.

M&G has two International Funds which solve the problem by spreading your investment effectively among the major stockmarkets of the world.

The M&G International Income Fund aims to provide a high income, and one that can be expected to increase over the years, from an international portfolio of equities.

The M&G International Growth Fund aims for all-out capital growth by investing in the major stockmarkets of the world.

If you remain optimistic about the British Stockmarket and want a balanced portfolio, look at M&G SECOND GENERAL, which aims for consistent growth of income and capital from a wide spread of shares mainly in British companies.

### SECOND GENERAL PERFORMANCE TABLE

Value of £1,000 invested on 5th June 1956.

Date	M&G SECOND	F.T. Ordinary Index	Building Society
5 June '56	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000
31 Dec '66	£2,996	£2,472	£1,699
31 Dec '76	£7,812	£3,859	£3,437
5 June '86	£67,208	£21,042	£8,104

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on an extra interest account offering 11.2% above the average yearly rate (source: Building Societies Association). M&G SECOND GENERAL figures are realisation values.

To celebrate M&G SECOND's thirty-year performance record we are offering an extra 1% unit allocation if you invest £1,000 or more and 2% if you invest £10,000 or more in any of these three unit trusts before 31st October 1986.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

### INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE TABLE

Value on 1st August 1986 of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G's two International Funds.

Launch Date	M&G Unit Trust	Building Society
May '85	£1,156	£1,098
Dec '67	£11,632	£4,558

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on an account offering a guaranteed extra 1.2% above the average yearly rate. (source: Building Societies Association). M&G figures are realisation values.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

On 13th August 1986 offered price and estimated gross current yields were:

Income	Accumulation	Yield
International Income 61.2p	62.8p	5.27%
International Growth 789.5p	1271.8p	1.65%
SECOND GENERAL 735.5p	1451.8p	3.81%

Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The difference between the offered price (at which you buy units) and the bid price (at which you sell) is normally 0.5%. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offered price and an annual charge of up to 1% of each Fund's value - currently 0.4% (except International Income, which is 1%) - plus VAT is deducted from gross income. Income for Accumulation units is reinvested to increase their value and for Income units it is distributed net of basic-rate tax on the following dates:

	International Income	International Growth	SECOND
Distributions	1 June	20 Mar	15 Feb
	1 Dec	20 Sep	15 Aug
Next distribution for new investors	1 Dec 1986	20 Sep 1986	15 Feb 1987

You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement two to three weeks later. Remuneration is payable to accredited agents; rates are available on request. The Trustee for International Growth is Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited and for International Income and SECOND GENERAL is Lloyds Bank Plc. The Funds are all wider range investments and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

M&G Securities Limited, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. Tel: 01-426 4588. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

### SPECIAL OFFER CLOSES 31st OCTOBER

All applications for £1,000 or more received by 31st October, 1986 will be given an extra 1% allocation of units, increasing to 2% for applications of £10,000 or more per Fund.

To: M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ. Please invest the sum(s) indicated below in the Fund(s) of my choice (minimum investment in each Fund: £1,000) in ACCUMULATION/INCOME units (delete as applicable) or Accumulation units will be issued for International Growth and SECOND and Income units will be issued for International Income at the price ruling on receipt of this application. DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY. A contract note will be sent to you stating exactly how much you owe and the settlement date. Your certificate will follow shortly.

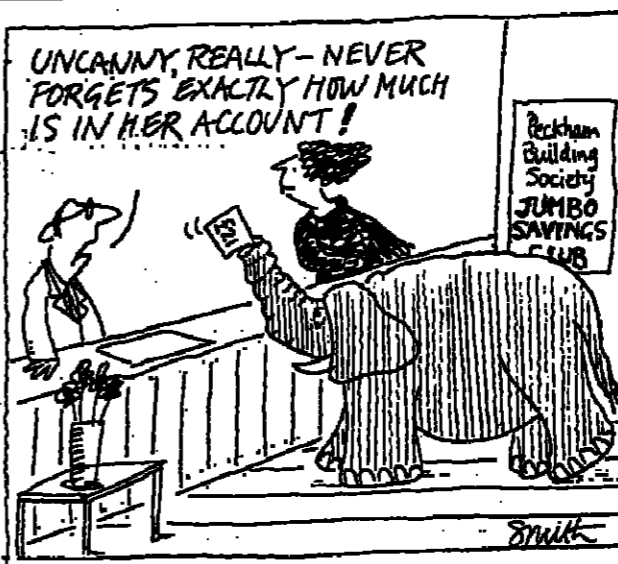
International Income (MIN. £1,000)	£	00
SECOND (MIN. £1,000)	£	00
International Growth (MIN. £1,000)	£	00

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 FULL FORM NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
 SURNAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 POST CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TY 483316

THE M&G GROUP

## The Jumbo habit aimed at children

Just when you thought it was safe to go into the high street, the latest device to encourage the savings habit in children appears. If your house has not been taken over by the National Westminster Bank pigs, you might want to let the children loose on Peckham Building Society's Jumbo.



Badges, balloons and a passbook bearing the effigy of Jumbo, are supplemented by regular doses of posters and magazines. Entrants to the Jumbo Savings Club Account will receive a year's free membership to the Panda Club (the junior section of the World Wildlife Fund), the Young Ornithologist's Club, or Watch, the nature conservationist organisation. After the first year the children have to pay at least some of the costs of membership themselves.

The account bears interest at the rate of 8.25 per cent - a reasonable return for young savers. But there is still no substitute for shopping around on rates.

Probably the biggest drawback of the scheme is the size of the society itself; it has just two offices in Peckham and Dulwich, south-east London, which means that children outside London will find themselves having to buy stamps and postal orders.

Details: Peckham Building Society, Graylaw House, 1 Copers Cope Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1NB; Tel: 01-658 7221

### Cover charge

It seems that the insurance industry will run out of policies when the world runs out of risks. St Christopher Motorists Security Association is offering a policy to insure drivers against losing their licences. But a spokesman insists that "it is not a charter for drunks. Anyone who's banned with more than two times the legal limit is not covered. This policy is aimed at the responsible driver who has not been drinking like a fish, but may just not have eaten properly." As part of the drive to find responsible road users only those older than 25 need apply.

The St Christopher scheme provides a money benefit to the disqualified driver so that the insured can purchase mobility. The company quotes a £94 premium for a maximum benefit of £4,000.

Details: SCMSA, 1 Great Cumberland Place, London W1H 7AL; tel: 723 3656.

### Health insurance

Probably the most prudent financial protection against falling ill is to take out a permanent health insurance policy. These offer uncancelable income protection for the long-term sick. There is normally a period of deferral of claim - you must be ill for three, six or 12 months before benefit is paid. The cover is fairly cheap, especially if the period of deferral is lengthy.

"But far more people are off work for less than a year than over a year," says Christopher Johnston of Personal Assurance. His company's new plan, the Hospital Plus Plan is "something between a sick-pay plan and a hospitalization plan". Unlike permanent health insurance, cover begins as soon as the insured enters hospital and terminates after a set period of one year. A maximum benefit of £10,800 for one year is payable for a half-yearly premium of £60.

Though this is not a permanent plan, a period of reduced convalescence payments goes some way towards bridging the gap between short-term accident and sickness insurance and permanent health insurance policies. The catch is that if you rely on this plan and then find yourself ill for a long period you may end up with no income protection at all. Which sort of cover to buy depends whether you expect to be one of the many or the few.

### Best savings bets

It has been encouraging to see that the big building societies are still interested in the small savers. The societies with the biggest financial muscle can obtain funds cheaply on the inter-bank capital markets, but this has not deterred them from pursuing savers as assiduously as ever.

Abbey National has reduced the investment threshold on its Gilt-Edged Bonds from £25,000 to £10,000. A commitment over two years will attract an interest rate of 8.5 per cent net of tax. Withdrawals can be made at 90 days notice, or immediately with a loss of interest.

The newly amalgamated Birmingham Midshires is doing even better. A new two-year term share attracts a yield of 8.63 per cent annually, and the minimum investment is a more modest £2,500. Withdrawals can be made at 60 days notice, or immediately with loss of interest.

Both these accounts are among the highest rates on the market.

# 8.25% NOW UP TO 11.62% GROSS

**BIGGER INTEREST FOR £20,000-PLUS INVESTORS. AND NO STRINGS!**

## HIGHER TOP RATES!

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TO: Mike McCardle, Northern Rock Building Society, FREEPOST, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1BR.

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Please confirm the application. Meanwhile, my investment is to start earning interest upon receipt.

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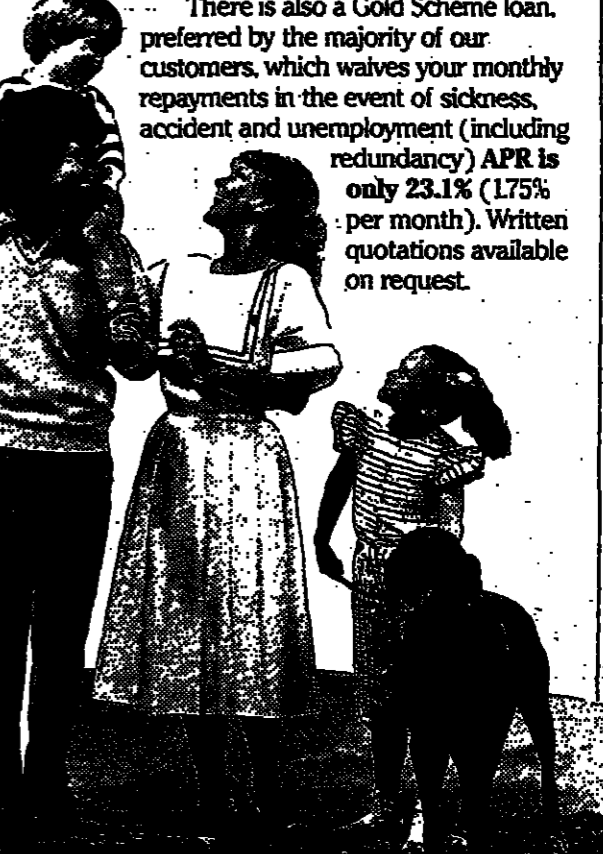
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Before tax relief

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	Monthly	Total	Monthly	Total	Monthly	Total
£1,500	£53	£1,943	£38	£2,293	£26	£3,120
£3,000	£106	£3,886	£75	£4,500	£52	£6,540
£5,000	£179	£6,444	£125	£7,500	£86	£10,560
£7,500	£268	£9,541	£184	£11,297	£127	£15,831
£10,000	£358	£12,234	£243	£14,061	£168	£21,132

APR 18.8% (1.45% per month)

### CHARTERLOAN APPLICATION FORM

Amount of Loan required £ \_\_\_\_\_ Repayment Term \_\_\_\_\_ years Property F/Hold/L/Hold/ Estimated Value £ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Surname \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No \_\_\_\_\_ Date purchased \_\_\_\_\_ Price paid £ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly income gross Self £ \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse £ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse's Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Commitments \_\_\_\_\_  
 Married/Single/Widowed/Separated/Divorced (Delete as appropriate) (Debit as appropriate) Name of Lender \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Payment \_\_\_\_\_ Amount owed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Present address \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 1st Mortgage \_\_\_\_\_ £ \_\_\_\_\_ £ \_\_\_\_\_  
 2nd Mortgage \_\_\_\_\_ £ \_\_\_\_\_ £ \_\_\_\_\_  
 HP/Bank \_\_\_\_\_ £ \_\_\_\_\_ £ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Loans \_\_\_\_\_ £ \_\_\_\_\_ £ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other Credit \_\_\_\_\_ £ \_\_\_\_\_ £ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Purpose for which loan is required \_\_\_\_\_  
 If you require the protection of the Gold Scheme loan, please tick here:   
 N.B. Life Insurance free up to state retirement age  
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Send this completed form to: Chartered Trust plc, 24/26 Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1SR. Secured Charterloans are available only in England, Wales and Scotland. Registered number 661204. England & Wales. NAY770/180835

FAMILY MONEY/2

# Time for a tougher law to help timeshare buyers

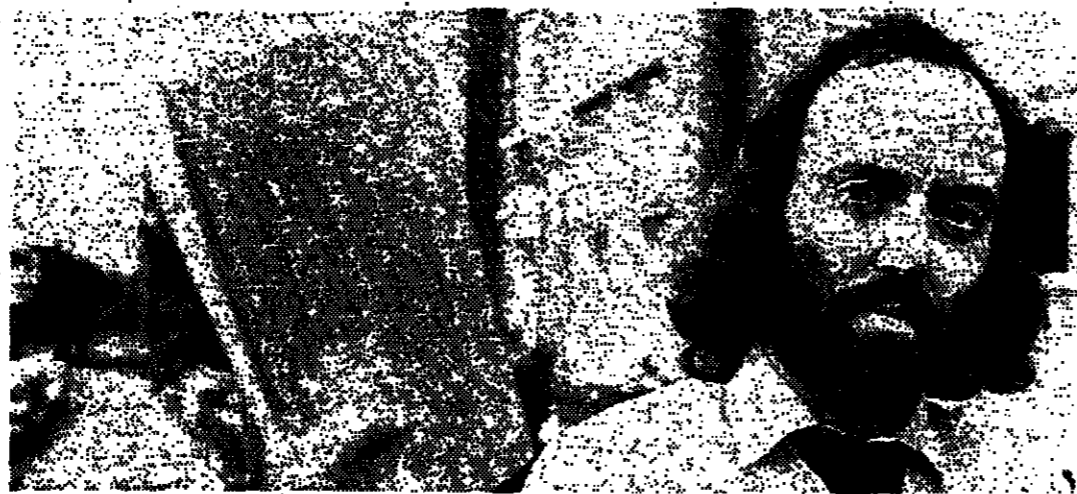
SALES TALK

February 5 1986 is a date that Michael Webster is not likely to forget. On that fateful day, he went to a showroom in London to claim a prize that he had won in a competition. Four and a half hours later he left the building clutching his prize, a carriage clock. But he had parted with £550 and promised to pay out a further £1,650. Michael Webster had become yet another victim of the hard-sell timeshare companies.

Three weeks earlier, he had received a letter telling him that he "had been selected to receive an award" and that he could learn about "the benefits the company can offer in over 600 resorts worldwide."

Mr Webster said: "There was a presentation that explained all about the holiday complex. After that, the hard sell started. A sales representative offered me an unspecified two weeks at the resort for £9,500, but if I signed up there and then there would be a first day saving of £1,900."

"I told him I could not afford it and he then called



Michael Webster. Went to collect a prize, came back with a contract and a bill

over someone else. They kept hitting me with another price. I lost count of the number of times I said 'no'. They just did not let up. Finally they suggested one week in November for £2,200.

"I had to pay a deposit of £550 and they would arrange credit for £1,650. I was to pay £45 a month over five years. I was there 3½ hours before I agreed to sign."

He spent another hour at the office looking through the documents and he finally

signed. Mr Webster said: "It never occurred to me to ask about solicitors to look at the papers, and they never mentioned it."

By 9.30 the following morning he was back at the showrooms. He realized he had made a horrendous mistake. He said: "I eventually saw a director but all he gave me was another sales pitch. I insisted I could not afford it. He told me: 'Now you have got it, enjoy it'."

Mr Webster is not giving up

the battle. He has not paid the monthly payments on his loan agreement and he is being advised on what further action to take.

A Times reader from Wales recently encountered a different sort of hard sell from a North London timeshare company, Resorts Leisure Exchange Ltd. He had entered a competition at a wine fair and received a letter telling him that "as second prize winner he had won a 50 per cent discount voucher worth up to

£5,400 on the purchase of a timeshare".

He said: "The hard sell took place over the telephone. A salesman kept congratulating me on winning the prize and telling me how the apartments were bound to go up in value."

"I have now found that the friend I went with also won the same second prize."

In a recent competition in south Wales, of 1,200 entrants, about 880 won second

prizes — a 50 per cent discount voucher from Resorts Leisure Exchange Ltd.

A spokeswoman from the company which ran the competition said: "It caused us a lot of heartache. Our main worry was that those entrants who are not clued up may have been totally overwhelmed and persuaded to find the money. We wrote to every one of the prizewinners."

An official of Barnet council in north London, which has received complaints about the company, said: "We have taken legal advice. But there is nothing illegal. It is just a piece of hard sell."

The problem is that the law in its present form is inadequate. Mr Webster and many others have found themselves thousands of pounds out of pocket, because there is no statutory cooling-off period for buyers of timeshares.

The law is in urgent need of reform. A compulsory cooling-off period must be a top priority, whether the timeshare is bought on credit or for cash.

Sue Fieldman

A Times colleague and I went to a company called Allen House, which uses prizes to encourage visitors to its Kensington, London offices. We took with us the company's you-have-won-a-prize letter, and though the sales technique was not aggressive it was relentless.

Peter, the salesman offered us a one-week timeshare in a two-bedroom flat in the company's luxury block by its offices, which would cost £11,300. If we signed immediately, we would be given a £1,000 discount. Peter mistakenly claimed: "It will be tax-free when you sell."

We were actively discour-

aged by Peter and his supervisor, Gerald Kleiner, from showing the papers to our solicitor. Mr Kleiner told us there was no need to worry.

We were told that a barrister, a Mr P., who had brought one of the timeshares recently, had been completely satisfied with the documents. Mr Kleiner said: "Solicitors are emotional people, they will tell you not to buy." We left after 2½ hours, having had to ask for our prize, the ubiquitous carriage clock.

A Kensington and Chelsea council official said: "We continue to keep a watching brief on Allen House. There have been no breaches of the law."

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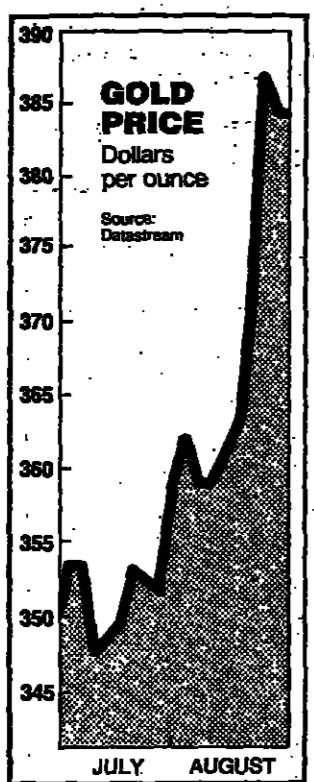
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## If you go for gold go carefully

The price of gold rose 10 per cent in two days earlier this week, which has prompted a lot of the nine gold unit trusts on the market to perform extravagantly well compared to their earlier records.

Opal Statistics' figures show that eight of nine gold funds are in profit over the last month. Waverley Australasian Gold has added 13.8 per cent, while most managed a gain of at least 6.4 per cent. But even the managers of these funds are wary of advising the public to invest now after the sharp rise.

David Smith, whose Schroder Gold Fund is up 9.6 per cent on the month, but down 15.2 per cent over the last year — a performance typical of the sector, says: "There is definitely room for consolidation in gold now."

Gold is a reasonable long-term bet, but it is not a punt for a quick profit.

The price of gold unit trusts is not the same as the gold price, because unit trusts invest in gold mining shares, but Peter Basher of Waverley says that there is "a pretty good correlation with bullion."

Brian O'Neill of Gartmore Gold (up 8.8 per cent over the month but down 46.6 per cent over three years) is worried because "everything's going up: the pound, the dollar, the stock markets on London, Wall Street and Europe, platinum and gold. Something's wrong."

If you do want to invest, gold unit trusts normally carry charges of 5 per cent initially and 1 per cent annually. So for a quick killing, any increase would have to be substantial.

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Contract notes will be issued within 5 days; certificates within 42 days. The prices and yields are published daily in leading national newspapers. You can sell units back to the Managers on any business day at the Bid Price ruling on receipt of your instructions. An initial charge of 5% is included in the Offer Price of units. Remuneration is paid to qualified intermediaries — rates available on request. The annual charge is 1% per annum (+VAT) of the Trust value which is deducted from the Trust's gross income. The income distribution will be made annually on 1st November to unitholders registered by the 1st September.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ I am/We are over 18

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6% of the Fund, as at 14 August 1986

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Charges: Initial: 5% (included in the offer price)  
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Price and Yield: On 14 August 1986 the offer price was 82.5p and the estimated gross yield was 0.67%. Investors should note that unit prices — as well as the income from them — can go down as well as up and you should regard your investment as a medium to long term one.

Distributions: Income is distributed annually, on 31st August.

Dealing: Units are normally bought and sold daily (excluding bank holidays). Current prices and yields are published in the Financial Times and Glasgow Herald.

Selling units: To sell your units, sign the certificate and return it to the Managers who will send you a cheque normally within seven days.

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The investment adviser of the Fund is MURRAY JOHNSTONE LIMITED, managers of some £2000 million of assets worldwide.

Their expertise in global investment management is acknowledged in joint ventures with the Yamaichi Group of Japan and Kemper Financial Services of Chicago.

Murray Johnstone currently has £400 million in the Far Eastern markets where their involvement dates back 25 years.

**BONUS Offer closes 31st August 1986**

**MURRAY JOHNSTONE**

FAMILY MONEY/3

# Yes, you can insure against a lawsuit

**LEGAL COVER**

Litigation is an expensive, double-edged sword, and lawyers have the handle. Clare Dyer explains how insurance can help push some cases to a successful conclusion or take the bitterness out of legal defeat

Nick Jordan-Moss, aged 66, had to have an eye removed after X-ray treatment for a small tumour on the eyelid.

Armed with the opinion of a leading eye surgeon that the radiation treatment done without a shield over the eye was responsible, and assured by his barrister and solicitor that he had "the nearest thing to a cast-iron case", he sued the consultant radiologist and the health authority.

During the next three years

he ran up legal and medical fees of £4,000 to £5,000 while the defendant held out and refused to pay up. In February, as the date of the court hearing loomed, Mr Jordan-Moss had all but decided to abandon his claim.

With a pension and non-executive director's fees totalling just over £20,000 a year, and shares worth a few thousand pounds, he was caught in the "middle-income trap". This catches thousands of would-be litigants, too well off for legal aid, but not rich enough to risk a liability of £50,000 to £60,000 — the loser's bill for a five-day High Court trial.

Losing the case in court would have meant selling his home in Dorking, Surrey. He says: "However good a case I'd got, nothing is certain in the law and the risk was much too big."

Then he had a brainwave. If his case was so clear-cut, could

he not insure against the small risk of losing? Legal-expenses insurance provides cover against the cost of litigation, but once you are embroiled in a court case it is too late to take out a policy. Would it be possible to insure against the risk of losing a case which was about to go to court?

Mr Jordan-Moss says: "I'd never heard of anybody doing it, nor had my solicitor. But being a director of an insurance company, I tend to think in insurance terms." So he approached his broker, Anthony Wakefield, of Leatherhead, Surrey.

Mr Wakefield says: "I managed to get the cover put together in the London market. We just went in and asked it as a personal favour of the underwriters we do our business with and they kindly obliged because they were in the thought of what Mr Jordan-Moss had suffered."

Mr Wakefield stresses that, though he would try to help other clients in the same situation, he would not encourage inquiries from anyone who was not already a client.

In the event, Mr Jordan-Moss did not have to pay the premium — 3 per cent of the potential £60,000 loss. Once his opponents realized he intended to go to court, if necessary, they offered to settle the claim.

David Rae, Mr Jordan-Moss's solicitor, says: "They



They said it had the opposite effect.

Legal-expenses insurance policies exclude cover for legal actions already under way, but John Long, managing director of Bristol-based Allianz Legal Protection, says he would be prepared to consider insuring a case on a one-off basis, if it was backed up by a strong counsel's opinion.

With the recent cuts in legal-aid allowances and with proposals to curb legal-aid spending under scrutiny, more people are likely to find themselves caught in the middle-income trap. Legal expenses insurance provides a cheap way out.

For £68 a year, Allianz will cover a family for consumer and personal injury actions, claims relating to motoring or employment or rights as a home owner or occupier, and criminal prosecutions. Consumer and non-driving personal injury cover — which would include medical negligence claims — would cost a family £20 a year.

They knew perfectly well they'd be liable, but they were pushing it along as far as they could, hoping we would give up.

Then they started with a ridiculous figure to settle the case. But eventually they agreed to pay virtually what counsel said the injury was worth — £19,000 to £20,000."

This type of insurance, according to brokers, falls into the category of "special risks" or "contingency". But Geoffrey Fox, a spokesman for the leading brokers in the contingency market, Adam Brothers, which arranges cover against such disasters as the cancellation of the World Cup or the Commonwealth Games, says insurance against losing a court case is not a proposition his firm would entertain.

Mr Fox says: "We did it once and it was a total loss. At least three eminent counsels, said: 'There's no way this case is going to lose'. It lost. The judges based their decision on the same precedent that counsel had quoted to prove that our assured could not lose, but

# Where holiday cash lasts best

**TRAVEL**

How much will your holiday really cost? You know what you have paid the travel agent but the actual charges at a holiday destination are usually not known until you arrive at a resort. To help the holiday-maker make the right decision Thomas Cook has produced a Cost of Holiday Living Index.

It reveals that Gran Canaria is the cheapest vacation destination, once you have travelled there. A weighted total cost of a week's expenses amount to £193.60 by comparison with £212.85 for nearby Tenerife. The most expensive is the Portuguese island of Madeira with an estimated £298.15.

The information was supplied by Thomas Cook representatives and is based on the in-resort prices of dinner for two, a litre of wine, coffee, half a litre of beer, tea, a camera film, a soft drink, sun cream, five postcards and a stamp, 20 litres of petrol and a week's car hire.

The competitive car-hire rates on Gran Canaria contribute substantially to its outstanding value. Lanzarote is a close second, with Tenerife making a third for the Canary Islands.

Car hire aside, the Greek islands — Corfu and Crete — emerge as best value. As might be expected, Cyprus, Madeira and Portugal are more expensive destinations.

The guide reveals Crete and

Corfu as the best buy for dinner for two at £7.54 and £8.54 respectively. Greece also scores well for half a litre of beer.

It is only Marbella and Portugal, the EEC's newest partner, where a litre of wine is more than £2. Other good buys include camera film in Lanzarote at £2.27 and sun cream in Corfu at £1.71.

It really boils down to paying for your enthusiasms. Photographers and sun-worshippers will be happy enough in Lanzarote and Corfu respectively.

But imagine the misery of the snap-happy tourist in Majorca where film costs £5.68 a roll. And will the ludos of the expensively acquired tan really be that much greater in Madeira where sun cream is sold at the rate of £3.56 a tube?

Beer seems cheaper just about anywhere other than Britain. An outlay of merely 40p will secure half a litre's worth of relief from Cretan heat.

Even the most expensive

beer at 80p compares well with British prices.

Prices on the Costa del Sol fluctuate considerably between the likes of Marbella and Torremolinos and the north and south of Tenerife. The index features the most competitive prices available.

Since Thomas Cook did a similar survey last summer, several destinations have reduced in price (taking into account the weighting). Corfu was £242.38 (now £237.67) and Crete was £243.95 (now £235.23).

Other destinations have risen slightly, such as Ibiza from £230.04 to £255.62. Portugal has increased from £187.74 to £263.45 and Majorca from £174.84 to a substantial £242.97 by comparison.

Hogg Robinson's 200 travel shops have a three-volume Recommended Resort and Hotel Guide, which gives valuable back-up information on facilities, both in hotels and resorts, as well as advising on suitability, such as for parents with young children, the disabled or elderly.

It can be inspected at any of Hogg Robinson's shops.

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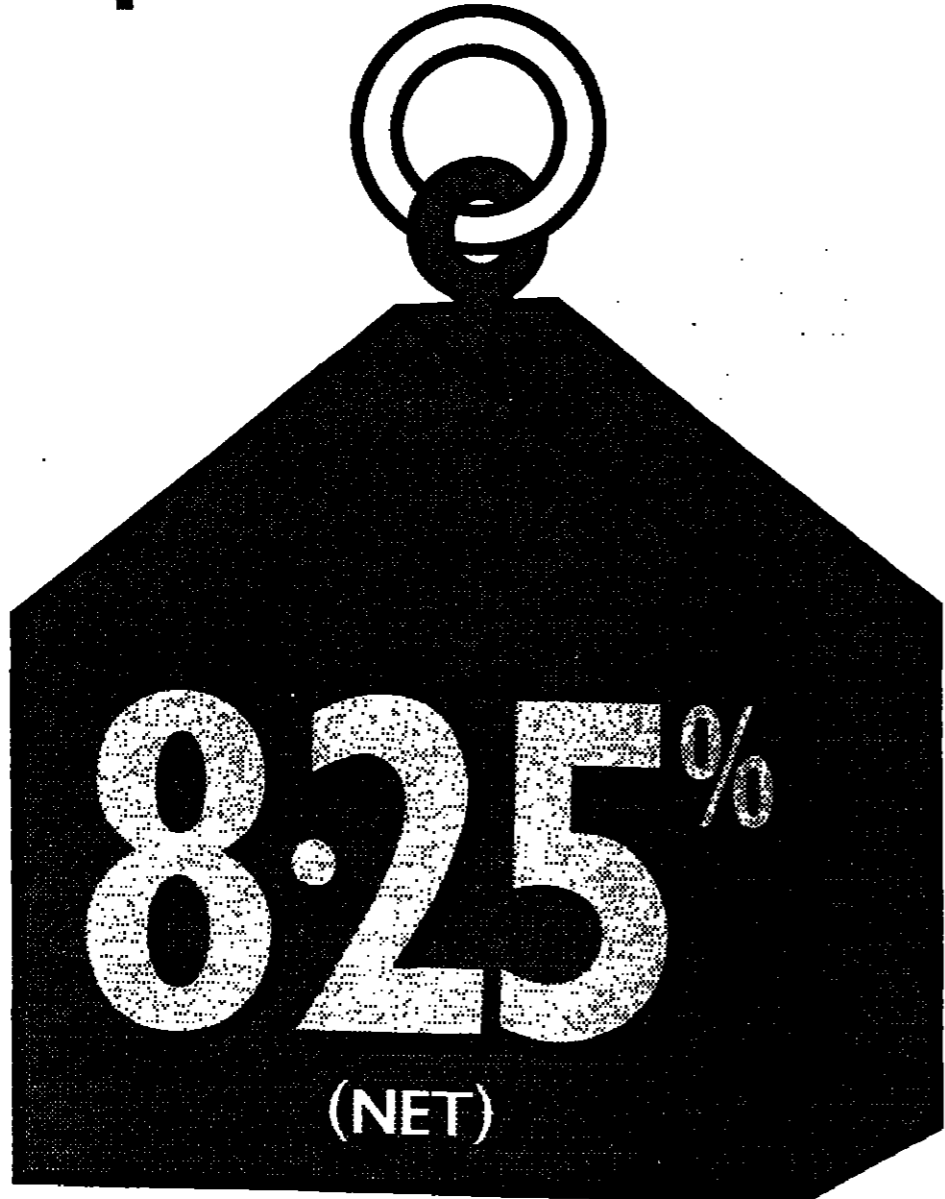
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FAMILY MONEY/4

How parents can pass school fees test



Under pressure: Pupils at Radley College preparing for exams while parents face a steep bill

EDUCATION

As the start of the school year approaches, parents with children at fee-paying schools will be viewing the arrival of the bill with some apprehension. Those parents will be only too aware of the cost of private education. But for the unfamiliar, just how much school fees amount to may come as a shock.

standard of living, by selling the car, or in some circumstances moving to a smaller house or remortgaging the property, to pay the fees. Such dramatic measures can be avoided by "forward" planning. And the earlier you begin to plan, the greater the savings.

school and to parents who are higher-rate taxpayers. It works like this. The school buys an annuity and because of its charitable status receives a tax rebate, which is used to fund scholarships. A parent buying an annuity, on the other hand, would be charged income tax on the payments.

EDUCATIONAL TRUSTS

Table with columns: LEVEL FEES, Capital for 15 terms at £700 per term, Interval between setting up plan and child starting school (0-3 mths, 6 yrs, 9 yrs, 12 yrs), and rows for Equitable Life, Royal Life, Save & Prosper, SFIA.

Table with columns: LEVEL FEES, Capital for 15 terms at £1,600 per term, Interval between setting up plan and child starting school (0-3 mths, 6 yrs, 9 yrs, 12 yrs), and rows for Equitable Life, Royal Life, Save & Prosper, SFIA.

\* Figs quoted for periods of six, nine and 12 years are based on with-profit policies. Greater sums would be required if non-profit policies were used.

TAKING 5% INFLATION INTO ACCOUNT

Table with columns: Capital for 15 terms, currently £700 per term, starting in 1996, increasing from 1988, and increasing from now.

Quoted rates in July 1986.

Unit Assurance's Managed Fund and is designed for fees due to begin in no less than three years' time, preferably five. Under Equitable Life's School Fee Trust, parents can opt either to make a single or occasional capital payments, or to make regular monthly contributions. Depending on when the fees are due and the type of payment chosen, the money will be invested in the society's non-profit policies, with-profit policies, or its unit-linked plans.

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INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

Table listing various interest rates for different banks and products, including National Savings Income Bonds, National Savings Indexed Income Bonds, and various bank deposit rates.

MONEY FUNDS

Table listing various money funds and their performance metrics, including Anson Home, B of Scotland, Barclays Higher Rate, and others.

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Vertical text on the left edge of the page, including 'ere holiday', 'sh lasts best', 'VEL', 'TRIN', 'TIMES JOURNALISM', 'nightmare for the hor of Catch 22', and 'hout The'.



FOOTBALL

Club meets conditions set by League

Middlesbrough are confident that they will open the season against Peter Vale on August 23. A consortium said yesterday that all conditions laid down by the Football League had been met and creditors would be paid in full.

The consortium are awaiting official confirmation that Middlesbrough will be admitted into the League as a new company. The club were wound up in the High Court two weeks ago over a £13,000 tax bill.

A supporters' fund has been set up again to help them in their survival battle. A local businessman, Edmund Pearson, who launched it, said it was vital for supporters to rally round the club.

Norwich City stepped a £1 million price tag on Dave Watson when they met Everton officials in London yesterday. This pushed the England central defender out of range of Everton, who had offered £705,000.

Card control. Luton's new £250,000 crowd control system, designed to keep hooligans out of Kenilworth Road, has its first test today in the friendly against Monterey.

Fans who misbehave will have their cards blacklisted and the computer will reject them if they try to attend future games.

GOLF



Happy as a sand-boy: Bob Tway, the PGA champion, in action at the Castle Rock tournament where he birdied the last two holes to reach the second round

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL

Hay's warning to Celtic

By Hugh Taylor

Realistically, the main aim of Clydebank is to avoid relegation from the Scottish League's premier division. Yet there is such enthusiasm, allied to imaginative thinking and solid construction in the team, that it is difficult to visualise even the well-drilled Clydebank defence keeping out the pair who may lead Scotland in the European Championship.

David Hay, of Celtic, the most pragmatic of managers, is an admirer of Clydebank's refreshing style and has warned his high-flying team, already favourites to retain their title, that they must be at their best this afternoon if they are to take both points.

International winger, Cooper, after suspension, they will have to show more pace and bite in attack if they are to beat Dundee United at Ibrox. More pressure is put on Rangers - who have proved once again that extravagant spending on players does not bring instant success - by the fact that Dundee United have won only twice in 23 matches in the Scottish Premier Division since the inception of the premier division.

Wind a threat to fair competition

By Jim Railton

Wind on a wide, open course is one of the main threats to fair competition. If the conditions for the world championships, starting at Holme Pierrepont tomorrow, are anything like they were yesterday, then the competitors - from 37 countries in all - could be in for a torrid week.

Germany, in direct confrontation. Though both are in their thirties, they look set to carry on to the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul. Karppinen has won the Olympic single sculls title three times to equal the record.

lay off training for almost a month. Kolbe, on the other hand, had a successful European season. The men's eights also promises to be a thriller. The United States' team, who beat the Soviet Union recently in the Friendship Games in Moscow, are stroked by Andrew Sudduth, who caused a big upset last year in the world championships when he split Karppinen and Kolbe to take the silver medal in the single sculls.

Olympics, has a reputation of being lethal as a stroke in the sweep-oar event. But there will be other exceptional eight contestsing the world title including New Zealand, Australia, East Germany and Britain. The British camp is highly optimistic after a successful season in Europe as well as at the Nottinghamshire international and Henley Royal Regatta. Five medals for Britain appear to be a reasonable estimate but chickens ought not to be counted before they are hatched.

MOTOR CYCLING

Champion Dunlop's lap record

By George Ace

Joey Dunlop has pushed the Formula One lap record up to a staggering 119.48mph in practice - 2.6 seconds faster than the 1982 record set by Norman Brown - in preparation for today's Dunlop Grand Prix at the Dundrod circuit.

That run said it all: Dunlop, aged 34 from Armoyle, clinched the Formula One world title for a record fifth successive time in Finland's fourth race but that will not prevent the Irishman giving his all to take the chequered flag once more and give his home fans something extra to cheer this afternoon.

Dunlop takes part in the 250cc class and in the Classic and will encounter top opposition in each. In the 500cc Classic, Roger Marshall, a Honda team colleague with Dunlop, makes his only appearance and merits the utmost respect. In the 250cc, Eddie Laycock, the Dubliner, is firing on all cylinders at the moment, and John Woodson, of London, along with Brian Reid, the reigning champion, provide a threesome fraught with danger to the man they call "King of the Road" in Northern Ireland.

Weekend sports fixtures

Table listing various sports fixtures including Football, Vauxhall-Opel League, Premier division, Scottish first division, Scottish second division, and other leagues.

PERSONAL

Personal advertisements including services, wanted, and announcements.

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Advertisement for Resista Carpets featuring various carpet types and prices.

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FOOTBALL

A dress rehearsal for another game of Merseyside monopoly

By Clive White

If another football season has come around all too soon for those who gorged themselves upon the Mexican fare barely seven weeks ago, their appetite is unlikely to be greatly whetted by the offering of another chip butty derby at Wembley this afternoon. That is, unless you happen to come from chip butty country.

The green green grass of Wembley has become a home from home for the two Merseyside giants. Between them these past three years they will have totalled 11 appearances there, monopolizing the occasion three times. Dare one suggest that this is too much of a good thing — for the viewing public never mind each side's ambition which must be close to saturation.

I would be surprised if the players are not becoming blasé about stepping out on to the hallowed turf. The fact that Everton's Reid, Southall, Bracewell, Van den Hauwe, Mountfield and Pointon have all been declared unfit and Stevens and Mimms doubtful for today's game suggest that in the mind of Howard Kendall, the manager, there can sometimes be other more important considerations than playing at Wembley.

One is tempted to suggest that it is only the Charity Shield. But with the curtain rising on an experimental season for a newly restructured League in just seven days' time, never can this 78-year-old final have found itself in such a significant position. Never before has a dress rehearsal been watched by so

many. Apart from the 90,000-odd Liverpoolians on hand there will be an estimated television audience of five million in this country alone. The game is being televised live — by ITV — for the first time.

However, despite the familiarity with the characters no one could ask for more talented exponents of the sport. Liverpool and Everton have the chance today to woo back last season's missing millions. Attendance figures were down nearly 10 per cent after the tragedies of Brussels and Bradford the previous season. Yet despite their heavy guilt in Brussels, who better than Liverpoolians, or more accurately what better than a Merseyside derby, to produce a trouble-free, fun day at Wembley.

A repeat of last May's FA Cup performance would be no bad thing, though no doubt Everton will be hoping for a

Probable teams

EVERTON: R Mimms; G Stevens, P Power, K Ratcliffe, A Harper, T Stevens, K Richardson, K Langley, K Sheedy, G Sharp, A Heath. LIVERPOOL: B Grobbelaar; M Lawson, G Gillespie, A Hansen, J Beglin, R Whelan, J Molloy, K MacDonald, S McMahon, C Johnson, I Rush. Referee: Neil Midgeley (Salford).

slightly different storyline. They were conclusively beaten 3-1.

Everton, the Charity Shield holders, who won the trophy against Liverpool and successfully defended it against Manchester United last year, come

back to Wembley considerably weaker than they were three months ago. Quite apart from the loss of Reid and the others, Everton are now without their leading marksman, Lineker, sold to Barcelona.

Similarly dispossessed, albeit in the long-term, are Liverpool, whose goal-scoring machine, Rush, the two-goal man of the match in May, is joining Juventus for £3.3 million. Liverpool are in the paradoxical idyllic position of having sold their greatest asset yet kept it, at least temporarily. Rush will be available to them for the rest of the season while Juventus decide whom among the prestigious foreigners must make way for the Welshman.

Liverpool, however, will definitely be without the injured Nicol (stomach) and, sadly, Walsh (ankle). Dalglish, who withdrew from Scotland's World Cup squad, must decide between his own ageing legs and Johnston's eager ones as to who partners Rush up front.

Everton's team, not surprisingly, will be unrecognizable from that which has consistently served them well. If Mimms fails to recover from an elbow injury his place will be taken by the third choice, Barber, Stevens, the England full back, has resumed training this week and should be fit. Heath ought now to be able to claim a first team place with the departure of Lineker, but there is still much competition with the signings of Power (from Manchester City), Adams (Stoke) and Langley (Wigan).

HORSE TRIALS

Course will be test of Phillips' ability

By Jenny MacArthur

Captain Mark Phillips faces his sternest test as course designer this weekend when one of the highest-classed fields assembled at a one-day event competes in the C&A Original British open championships at Gatcombe Park in Gloucestershire.

Captain Phillips, who is also the organizer, has designed the course since the event started in 1983 but this is the first year the British national championships, which were formerly held at Locko Park in Derbyshire. He has altered the course accordingly, admitting that if the shortest route is taken it is bigger than in previous years, but he has also had to bear in mind the young riders who are competing over the same course for their final trial before the European young riders' championships at Rotherfield at the end of the month.

Captain Phillips, remarking that he would be relieved to see the first few horses safely back in tomorrow's cross-country, said he would be concerned if less than 75 per cent completed his course. A glance at the entries should allay his fears. At their head is Giny Lemp, the European and world champion, who is riding her top horse, Pricelles and Night Cap, in the championship class. She also has her Burghley entry, Morphy Himself, entered in the advanced class.

Then there is Lucinda Green, the former world champion, for whom Gatcombe has proved a happy stamping ground. Runner-up to her husband David by a fraction of a point in the inaugural event, she went on to win in 1984 on Village Gossip. This year she rides Willy B and the nine-year-old Brass Monkey. Overnight leaders after first day of dressage (championship class): I. Glenworth (I Stark), 29 pts 2; Pricelles (Lemp), 32; J. General Boute (M Tucker), 35.

Lendl and McEnroe fall at high speeds

Toronto (Reuter) — Seeds toppled almost as fast as cars come off the assembly lines in this city. Ivan Lendl, John McEnroe, Yannick Noah, Brad Gilbert and Jimmy Arias all suffering headkicks in the third round of the \$375,000 (\$250,000) Player's international championship.

The turbo-charged serving of Kevin Curren, with 15 aces, throttled Lendl, the French and US Open champion, while McEnroe and Noah were far from aces, a winner came-backs after long lay-offs as they went down to Robert Seguso and Jonathan Canter.

While McEnroe blamed everything from God to the slow balls for his demise, Boris Becker, the Wimbledon champion, kept his confidence high in the run-up to the US Open at Flushing Meadow with confident victories over Francisco Maciel and Tim Wilkinson.

"I hated the fluffy balls, but I played lousy," admitted Lendl, as single service breaks in both tie-breaks sent him tumbling out to Curren. But McEnroe, who also lost in doubles with Peter Fleming, had a more novel excuse. "My comeback is proving harder than I expected. God is working in mysterious ways. He is testing me on court. It's a big test for me as a person."

McEnroe however quickly reverted to his more transcendent nature. "If the player's union had any clout, they wouldn't use these heavy balls," he said shortly. While Noah too showed his frustration after missing two months through injury and Gilbert and Arias were over-powered in serving duels with Bud Schultz and Christo Steyn, Curren, last year's Wimbledon finalist, was brilliant after losing Lendl, the world No 1 to discard his powerful passing game in favour of top spin lobs. "Lendl has got great shots, but under pressure he sometimes folds," he said.

RESULTS: Third round: (US selection) R Seguso vs J McEnroe, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5; B Becker (WC) vs F Maciel, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3; M Wilander vs J Arias, 6-4, 6-2; B Schultz vs B Gilbert, 6-7, 6-4, 6-2; C Steyn (SA) vs J Arias, 6-3, 6-4; E Edgar vs B L. 6-4, 6-4; K Curren vs I Lendl (CA), 7-6, 7-6; J Canter vs J M (Fr), 3-6, 7-5, 6-4.

TENNIS



Cry baby champions: John McEnroe, in his second tournament after a seven-month lay-off, displays his anguish as he goes down to Robert Seguso 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 in Toronto ...



... and Ivan Lendl fluffs it, blaming the balls in a 7-6, 7-6 defeat by Kevin Curren in a battle between the big serves ...



... and Yannick Noah shows his rustiness after a two-month absence through injury, losing 3-6, 7-5, 6-4 to Jonathan Canter

Graf ready for return

Frankfurt (AP) — Steffi Graf, the West German tennis star who broke her toe during the Federation Cup in Prague in July, will have recovered in time to play in the US Open in September, according to her father. "She'll be in shape to play in the US Open. By then her toe will have recovered," Peter Graf said in a telephone call from his home in Brühl, near Heidelberg. Graf, age 17, who is No 3 in the world women's tennis rankings, was injured in a freak accident during the Federation Cup when a large sunshade umbrella was blown from its base by a gust of wind and fell on her right foot, breaking her big toe. Graf beat No 1-ranked Martina Navratilova for the first time in West Berlin earlier this year but played poorly in the French Open because of a virus infection.

Not so easy top seeds find

Los Angeles (Reuter) — The top eight seeds were all ousted in the first round of the \$250,000 Los Angeles tournament after yesterday's action, but Chris Evert Lloyd, the second seed, could attest that it was not as automatic as it looks on the seeding lists. She needed 107 minutes and all of her toughness to beat Bettina Bunge, of West Germany, 7-6, 6-4. Helena Sukova, of Czechoslovakia, the fifth seed, dropped a set to Lori McNeil, of America, before winning 6-4, 1-6, 6-1, and Zina Garrison, seeded No 8, did the same before recovering to defeat Natalie Tauziat, of France, 6-7, 6-1, 6-2. In other matches, Claudia Kohde-Kilsch, of West Germany, Pam Shriver, of America, Gabriela Sabatini, of Argentina, and Manuela Maleeva, of Bulgaria, all won in straight sets. Louise Serrano, herself in all kinds of trouble against Bunge, who was ranked as high as sixth

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page SCOTTISH As London except: 11.30am-12.00pm Terrahawks, 2.45pm-3.00pm News North 11.50am-11.55am News, 11.55-12.00pm. Closedown. BORDER As London except: 11.30am-12.00pm Captain Scarlet, 11.50am-12.00pm News, 12.25pm. Closedown. TYNE TEES As London except: 11.30am-12.00pm Terrahawks, 11.50pm-12.00pm News, 11.50pm-12.00pm News, 12.25pm. Closedown. GRANADA As London except: 11.30am-12.00pm Terrahawks, 2.45pm-3.00pm News, 11.50am-11.55am News, 11.55-12.00pm. Closedown. YORKSHIRE As London except: 11.30am-12.00pm Captain Scarlet, 11.50am-12.00pm News, 12.25pm. Closedown. TSW As London except: 11.30am-12.00pm Terrahawks, 2.45pm-3.00pm News, 11.50am-11.55am News, 11.55-12.00pm. Closedown. ULSTER As London except: 11.30am-12.00pm Terrahawks, 2.45pm-3.00pm News, 11.50am-11.55am News, 11.55-12.00pm. Closedown. SUNDAY BBC1 WALES 11.05am-12.30pm Cricket (Glamorgan v New Zealand), 12.30-1.05pm Grandstand (rugby), 1.05-1.30pm News, 1.30-1.55pm World Championship (Rugby), 1.55-2.30pm Sports News Wales, 2.30-3.00pm News, 3.00-3.15pm News and Sport, 3.15-4.00pm News, 4.00-4.15pm News, 4.15-4.30pm News, 4.30-4.45pm News, 4.45-5.00pm News, 5.00-5.15pm News, 5.15-5.30pm News, 5.30-5.45pm News, 5.45-6.00pm News, 6.00-6.15pm News, 6.15-6.30pm News, 6.30-6.45pm News, 6.45-7.00pm News, 7.00-7.15pm News, 7.15-7.30pm News, 7.30-7.45pm News, 7.45-8.00pm News, 8.00-8.15pm News, 8.15-8.30pm News, 8.30-8.45pm News, 8.45-9.00pm News, 9.00-9.15pm News, 9.15-9.30pm News, 9.30-9.45pm News, 9.45-10.00pm News, 10.00-10.15pm News, 10.15-10.30pm News, 10.30-10.45pm News, 10.45-11.00pm News, 11.00-11.15pm News, 11.15-11.30pm News, 11.30-11.45pm News, 11.45-12.00pm News, 12.00-12.15pm News, 12.15-12.30pm News, 12.30-12.45pm News, 12.45-1.00am News, 1.00-1.15am News, 1.15-1.30am News, 1.30-1.45am News, 1.45-2.00am News, 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SPORT

Brand conquers the wind to go one up

By Mitchell Platt
Gordon Brand Jun., not to be confused with the Gordon J Brand who finished runner-up in the Open championship last month...

short putts for birdies and after gathering four birdies he completed an impressive performance by hitting a two iron to within three feet of the hole at the 18th (488 yards) for an eagle three.

18ft and 40ft in his round. Then he revealed that after the Open championship he changed his grip to bring his right hand more on top so as to give him greater length.

when he was runner up in the Panasonic European Open. Sandy Lyle continues to struggle. He took 77 shots for a total of 148 and made an early exit from a tournament that he won 12 months ago.



Tight-lipped he may be but Brand Jun. demonstrates a first class follow through

Alas, the dark age is upon us again

Simon Barnes
August is the cruellest month, bringing football out of the green land, mixing memory and making us all as sick as a parrot in the process.

Walker is crowned top boy

Ireland's Leslie Walker became British Boys Golf champion yesterday when he beat Graham King, of Scotland, by five and four at Seaton Carew.

the first three holes and reached the turn in an horrendous 48. Even though King came back in 41, Walker, round in 83, never got more than four up and at lunch was three holes clear.

● Susan Moorcraft won her first national title since she started playing competitive golf four years ago at the age of 17, with an emphatic 6 and 5 victory over Sally Prosser in the English Women's Intermediate Championship at Hexham yesterday.

CRICKET: OPENING BATSMAN TURNS DOWN AUSTRALIA TOUR

Gooch puts family ahead of England

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent
Graham Gooch told the England selectors yesterday that for family reasons he will be unavailable to tour Australia this winter.

Metcalf again shows his ability

By Peter Marson
EDGBASTON: A TCCB XI drew with the New Zealanders. A first-rate innings by Ken Rutherford, who made his first hundred on the New Zealand tour...

ATHLETICS

Sluggish Aouita finds Cram mile mark well out of reach

Said Aouita's latest world record attempt came unstuck here last night, and the Moroccan almost lost the mile race, rather than attack Steve Cram's record of 3min 46.32sec.

Imoh, who is studying at Missouri University, trailed Marian Woronin for the first 30m, but when he discovered his exaggerated shoulder-rolling charge...

FOOTBALL

Two subs for cup but not for League

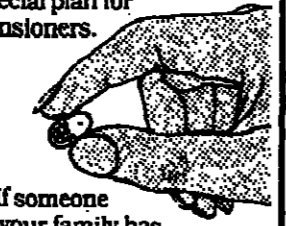
Two substitutes will be allowed in the Littlewoods Challenge Cup, formerly the Milk Cup, this season. First division clubs have rejected this move for the League championship.

Inherited miseries of primitive man

a wholly different occasion, full of good cheer and optimism, for it is the herald of summer and of longer and warmer days. But football, intertemporarily rising in the middle of winter...

Is someone in your family hard of hearing?

DOES SOMEONE in your family suffer from partial deafness? If so Hidden Hearing could have the answer with the world's smallest hearing devices.



Please post me absolutely free and without obligation details of the latest self-contained aids plus a copy of your free book. Name: Address: Post Code: To HIDDEN HEARING LTD. FREEPOST, Northampton NN1 5ER.

Hendon test for off-form Budd

Zola Budd will have to overcome one of the emerging talents of British women's athletics to register a badly needed victory at Hendon tomorrow.

Miss Lynch won Scotland's only athletics gold medal of the Edinburgh Games in the 10,000 metres, and followed it up by finishing ahead of Miss Budd in a 2,000 metres race at Gateshead.

regain her appetite for racing. Another confidence-training defeat could have serious repercussions on her planned 1,500 and 3,000 metres double in Stuttgart.

Johnson so close

Trish Johnson, Britain's Curtis Cup player, was beaten at the first play-off hole yesterday in the quarter-final of the United States women's amateur golf championship in Santa Cruz.



Greaves: stepping up

Calling time

Younis Ahmed, the 39-year-old former Pakistan Test batsman, announced yesterday he is leaving Glamorgan and retiring from first-class cricket at the end of the season to set up in business.

Buying power

Leigh has signed Ivor Owen, the 23-year-old Leigh Miners and Great Britain amateur rugby league prop forward, who was ever present in the international side's summer tour to Australia.

New blood

Ian Dunn, the former New Zealand outside half, is set to join Pontypool, the Welsh rugby union champions. His arrival will help plug a gap for the Welsh club, following the departure of Mike Goldsworthy to Glamorgan Wanderers.

Just reward

Halifax Town are to give a testimonial match at the end of the season for Billy Ayre, the club coach, who, on medical advice, was forced to end his playing career last week because of persistent knee trouble.

On trial

Blackpool Borough, the rugby league club, have signed Kevin Lowe, the 25-year-old Rochdale Hornets hooker, on a month's loan.

YACHTING

Indulgence takes an early lead

Graham Walker and his crew on board Indulgence proved themselves masters of the sea yesterday by scoring a significant victory in the opening race of the Three-quarter Ton Cup world championships.

Double tonic

Wilbert Greaves, Britain's Olympic high hurdler, will turn back the clock today when he competes for Harrogate in the vital GRE British athletics league division one match at Plaistow, East London.

On trial

Blackpool Borough, the rugby league club, have signed Kevin Lowe, the 25-year-old Rochdale Hornets hooker, on a month's loan.